RIP IT GOOD: Deconstruct T-shirts for retro-cool spring clothing | **Inside**

express

A PUBLICATION OF The Washington Post | WWW.WASHINGTONPOST.COM/EXPRESS | MARCH 31-APRIL 2, 2006 | >>FREE<<

Weekend

JEFF GENTNER/AP

Miner Randy McCloy waves as he heads home.

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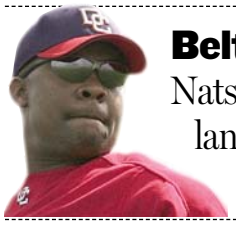
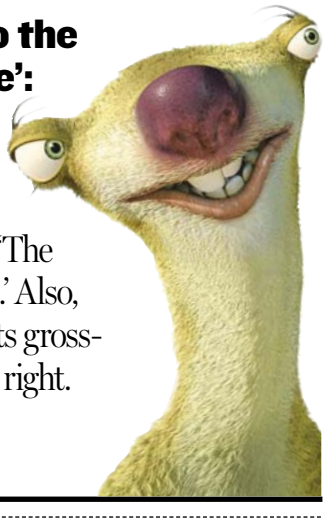
Lentz Convicted: Former naval officer guilty of murder | 11



Beltway Battle: Nats-Orioles rivalry lands in D.C. area at long last | 15

ENTERTAINMENT

Back to the 'Ice Age': *Sid* and other gab-by critters return for 'The Meltdown.' Also, 'Slither' gets gross-out horror right.



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Weather >> Partly Sunny

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FINAL 4

MASON MADNESS

Patriots head to Final Four confident, loose and ready to make history >> Page 13

PIER PAOLO CITO/GETTY IMAGES

Workers at Rome's City Hall remove a poster of reporter Jill Carroll after hearing news of her release.

Reporter: 'I Was Not Harmed'

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | American reporter Jill Carroll's three-month hostage ordeal ended Thursday when she was left on a Baghdad street in front of a Sunni political party office. She appeared composed and eager to talk about her 82 days held captive in a tiny room.

"It's important people know that I was not harmed," she said.

Carroll was dropped off at midday near an office of the Iraqi Islamic Party. She was then driven to party headquarters before being handed over to U.S. authorities.

The 28-year-old freelancer for The Christian Science Monitor said her kidnappers confined her to a small room with frosted windows but treated her well. Although her captors issued televised threats to kill Carroll if American forces did not release women prisoners, she said: "They never said they would hit me, never threatened me in any way."

The U.S. ambassador said there was no ransom paid by the American embassy, but his remarks left open the question of whether "arrangements" were made by others. (AP)

Steroids Inquiry Criticized

Former senator with ties to Red Sox to lead investigation

NEW YORK | Baseball began its investigation Thursday into alleged steroid use by Barry Bonds and others, and the head of the inquiry immediately came under attack because of his close ties to the sport.

In the wake of a searing book about Bonds, commissioner Bud Selig appointed former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell — currently a director of the Boston Red Sox — to lead the investigation. The probe initially will be limited to events since September 2002, when the sport banned performance-enhancing drugs, but Mitchell has the authority to expand it.

Selig said Mitchell's report will be made public but didn't set a timetable. By then, Bonds may well have passed Babe Ruth's home-run mark on the way toward Hank Aaron's all-time record.

Mitchell said he will not resign his position with the Red Sox. He also is chairman of The Walt Disney Co., the parent of ESPN, a national broadcast partner of baseball.

"I don't think there's any conflict," he said. "I'm going to be independent, have complete independent authority and will act." (AP)

SIDE EFFECTS | **Cosmo-nots** Women with breast implants may be banned from Virgin Galactic space flights, the Sun reported. The company fears that breast implants could expand — and even burst — due to the cabin pressure that passengers could experience. "We've discovered there may well be issues with breast augmentation," Will Whitehorn said. "We're not sure whether they could stand the trip — they could well explode." Flights are slated to begin in 2008. (EXPRESS) EyeOpeners | Page 2

eyeOpeners

DISTRACTIONS

And People Worry About Cell Phones

An East Naples, Fla., man crashed his car Tuesday after driving with his pet snake wrapped around his neck, the Naples Daily News reported. Courtland Page Johnson was driving erratically on the highway when, witnesses said, he crashed into roadwork barriers. Onlookers then saw that he was holding the snake in his hands. Johnson was arrested on charges of leaving the scene of a crash, and later admitted to police that he panicked when his snake began biting him. (EXPRESS)

ANGLOPHILES

Next, We'll Be Using The Metric System

Engineers are planning a brazen design to ease congestion and reduce accidents in Kansas City that discards something sacred among American motorists — driving on the right side of the road. Missouri transportation officials planning a street approach to an interstate have settled on an idea that appears to be a national first, costs the least and is expected to most effectively handle traffic — by crisscrossing lanes and putting drivers on the left, a position seldom experienced this side of the Atlantic. (AP)

CHRISTIAN LUTZ/AP

MEDICINE

Patched Up

It came in with hearing problems; diagnosis — they'd have to get the cotton out of its ears. A student of the Faculty of Medicine, left, at Strasbourg Faculty of Medicine in Strasbourg, France, simulated an ear operation on a rabbit toy brought by a young girl on Thursday. The institution opened a "Teddy Bear Clinic" for the day, where children could bring their teddy bears and toy animals, to gently introduce the children to medical professions. (EXPRESS)

Living in a tent on the roof — a sure way to restore intimacy with your wife.

DIRTY LAUNDRY

Hey World: My Wife Won't Sleep With Me

A Redford, Mich., man who says he can't get private time with his wife is going on strike from being a husband, KEYE-TV reported. James Wilson said his wife lets their kids sleep in their bed, so he can't get any alone time with her — and now he's moved up on the roof, where he spends his time with a sign reading "Hubby On Strike." "She refuses to remove the children from our bedroom," Wilson said. (EXPRESS)

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WASTE NOT: Philadelphia's plans for America's tallest environmentally friendly building could go down the toilet because a plumbers union has been raising a stink about a developer's plans to install 116 waterless, no-flush urinals. Fewer pipes mean less work.

Nation

In Brief

SELMER, TENN.

Minister's Wife Charged With His Murder Held Without Bail

A minister's wife charged with shooting her husband to death in a church waived her right Thursday to a hearing that would have aired evidence against her. Mary Winkler, 32, was ordered held without bail on charges of first-degree murder in the March 22 shooting of Matthew Winkler. (AP)

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

State House OKs Pardons For Victims of Segregation

Civil rights icon Rosa Parks and hundreds of other victims of segregation-era arrests would be pardoned under a bill passed unanimously by the Alabama House on Thursday. The bill was amended to say that the arrest records would be turned over to the state Department of Archives and History. (AP)

DELTONA, FLA.

Store Clerk Faces Jail for Urinating in Soda Bottle

A convenience store clerk pleaded no contest Thursday to felony charges of tampering after he urinated in a bottle of soda that was later drunk by a customer who became violently sick. Anthony Mesa, 21, will be sentenced at a later date, the Orlando Sentinel reported. (AP)

SPRING AHEAD: Daylight-saving time begins Sunday at 2 a.m. Remember to set clocks forward one hour.

Mass. Court Limits Gay Marriage

Ruling bans couples from states prohibiting unions from marrying

BOSTON | In a disappointment for the gay rights movement, the state's highest court ruled Thursday that same-sex couples from states where gay marriage is prohibited cannot tie the knot in Massachusetts.

Gov. Mitt Romney, a Republican who is considering a run for president in 2008, welcomed the decision, saying he did not want Massachusetts to become "the Las Vegas of same-sex marriage."

The Supreme Judicial Court upheld a 1913 state law that forbids nonresidents to marry in Massachusetts if their marriage would not be recognized in their home state.

If the court had struck down the law, Massachusetts would have been thrown open to gay couples from across the country to get married. They could then have returned to their home states to fight for legal recognition for those marriages.

The ruling leaves in legal limbo an undetermined number of out-of-state gay couples who got married in 2004 in Massachusetts when it became the first state to let gays wed.

Arline Isaacson of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus called the decision "a painful reminder that we remain second-class citizens."

JAY LINDSAY (AP)

CHITOSE SUZUKI/AP

Tanya Wexler, center, and partner Amy Zimmerman talk to the press Thursday.

Reactions to Ruling

➜ Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney, who is considering a run for the GOP presidential nomination, hailed the decision as a victory for "traditional marriage" | Today, A Section

IN The Washington Post

CALIFORNIA | LOVE BEYOND THE SEA

SEAWORLD/AP

WET KISS: Bocce, a 9-month-old female Pacific walrus, gets physical with Kitkatska, a 25-year-old walrus at San Diego's SeaWorld Thursday. Bocce was found beached in Alaska last year and was sent to SeaWorld for care.

Army Bans Privately Bought Body Armor

WASHINGTON | Soldiers will no longer be allowed to wear body armor other than the protective gear issued by the military, Army officials said Thursday, the latest twist in a running battle over the equipment the Pentagon gives its troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Army officials told The Associated Press that the order was prompted by concerns that soldiers or their families were buying inadequate or untested commercial armor from private companies.

"We're very concerned that people are spending their hard-earned money on something that doesn't provide the level of protection that the Army requires people to wear. So they're, frankly, wasting their money on substandard stuff," said Col. Thomas Spoehr, director of materiel for the Army.

Veterans groups and some lawmakers immediately denounced the decision.

"Outrageously we've seen that (soldiers) haven't been getting what they need in terms of equipment and body armor," said Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., who wrote legislation to have troops reimbursed for equipment purchases.

LOLITA C. BALDOR (AP)

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Nation

783 **The number of new sex abuse claims** filed against Roman Catholic clergy in 2005, most of them decades old. More than 12,000 such claims have been filed since 1950.

Mine Survivor Back Home

3 months after blast, worker's quick recovery astonishes doctors

SIMPSON, W.VA. | It wasn't a fancy homecoming, just some red balloons, handmade signs, a lot of hugs and his wife's homemade lasagna. But it was everything the only survivor of the Sago Mine disaster wanted after a three-month recovery that continues to amaze doctors.

He is thin and still a bit unsteady on his feet, but Randal McCloy Jr. was strong enough Thursday to leave the Morgantown rehabilitation hospital where he has spent two months in intensive therapy, recovering from a severe brain injury and regaining his physical strength.

The scene would have been hard to imagine Jan. 4, when a critically injured McCloy was carried out of the mine 41 hours after an explosion that left 12 fellow miners dead.

"I'd just like to thank everybody for their thoughts and prayers," he said softly at a news conference with his wife, Anna.

He paused, then added, "I believe that's it."

In recognition of McCloy's recovery, Gov. Joe Manchin announced the rural road where the McCloys live will be renamed "Miracle Road." "We didn't get the 13 miracles we hoped for," Manchin said. "We did get one." APRIL VITELLO (AP)

JEFF GENTNER/AP

Mine survivor Randal McCloy Jr., right, smiles alongside his wife Anna on Thursday in Simpson, W.Va. McCloy returned home after being in the hospital for four months.

House Conservatives Blast Immigration Bill

Senate provision would give illegal immigrants chance at citizenship

WASHINGTON | A House conservative criticized President Bush, accused the Senate of fouling the air, said prisoners should pick America's crops instead of illegal farm workers and denounced the use of Mexican flags by protesters Thursday in a vehement attack on legislation to liberalize U.S. immigration laws.

"I say let the prisoners pick the fruits," said Rep. Dana Rohrabacher of California, one of more than a dozen Republicans who took turns condemning a Senate bill that offers an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants an opportunity for citizenship.

"Anybody that votes for an amnesty bill deserves to be branded with a scarlet letter A," said Rep. Steve King of Iowa, referring to a guest worker provision in the Senate measure.

Their news conference took place across the Capitol from the Senate, where supporters and critics of the legislation seemed determined to heed admonitions from both Bush and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist to conduct a dignified, civilized debate.

Rohrabacher

The House has passed legislation to tighten border security, while the Senate approach also includes provisions to regulate the flow of temporary workers into the country and control the legal fate of millions of illegal immigrants already here. Bush has broadly endorsed the Senate approach, saying he wants a comprehensive bill. DAVID ESPO (AP)

Outside Agency To Aid Probe of Fla. Boot Camp

PENSACOLA, FLA. | A special prosecutor investigating the death of a 14-year-old boy beaten by guards at a juvenile boot camp said Thursday that an "independent law enforcement agency" will help with the probe because he has concerns about the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Mark Ober cited recently disclosed e-mails from the FDLE's commissioner to the boot camp operator that Gov. Jeb Bush has agreed were inappropriate.

FDLE Commissioner Guy Tunnell started the Bay County boot camp and was sheriff there when 14-year-old Martin Lee Anderson died Jan. 6. (AP)

WHO KNEW? Bleaching from record hot water followed by disease is killing ancient and delicate coral in the biggest loss of reefs scientists have ever seen in Caribbean waters.

HARD HEARTED: In the largest scientific test of its kind, heart surgery patients showed no benefit when strangers prayed for their recovery. And patients who knew they were being prayed for had a slightly higher rate of complications.

Ex-FBI Agent Indicted For Mob Hits

Inside man's tips led mafia boss to order slayings, police say

NEW YORK | A retired FBI agent was indicted on murder charges Thursday for allegedly taking bribes from a mobster to supply him with inside information that led to four underworld slayings in Brooklyn.

R. Lindley DeVecchio, 65, was arrested in a case of "confidential leaks, payoffs and death" dating back two decades, District Attorney Charles Hynes said.

DeVecchio pleaded not guilty and was released on $1 million bail. He did not speak at his arraignment. One of the two alleged mob hitmen behind the slayings was jailed without bail. The other was in Florida, awaiting extradition.

Hynes said the charges stemmed from the unusually close relationship between DeVecchio — then head of the FBI's Colombo crime family squad — and Gregory Scarpa Sr., a government informant and Colombo captain nicknamed "The Grim Reaper."

PHOTO CREDIT

R. Lindley DeVecchio walks into the Brooklyn DA's office on Wednesday.

The pair met each week during the 1980s and '90s and discussed a bloody civil war within the Colombo family. In exchange for bribes, DeVecchio "counseled Scarpa to protect himself by eliminating imminent threats," Hynes said.

In 1984, DeVecchio allegedly warned Scarpa that the girlfriend of a high-ranking Colombo figure was cooperating with federal authorities. As a result, authorities say, she was shot and killed in a Brooklyn social club — a pattern prosecutors said was repeated in three slayings of Scarpa rivals, the last one in 1992.

Scarpa gave DeVecchio weekly payments and also enhanced the agent's reputation within the FBI by helping him solve important cases, Hynes said.

DeVecchio surrendered Wednesday night at the Brooklyn district attorney's office. He had no comment as he entered.

DeVecchio retired in 1996. Scarpa died in prison in 1994.

TOM HAYS (AP)

CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY IMAGES

Shoppers make their way through a New Orleans Wal-Mart, which re-opened on Wednesday. The store faced extensive repairs after Hurricane Katrina hit the city.

New Orleans Recovery Could Take 25 Years

Repairing city's levees to pre-storm levels will cost extra $5.9 billion

WASHINGTON | A full recovery in New Orleans could take 25 years as homeowners, businesses and tourists are coaxed back to the city devastated by Hurricane Katrina, the Bush administration's Gulf Coast recovery coordinator said Thursday.

Don Powell said that much of the city's rebirth will hinge on factors he said were "out of our control," including restoring housing, ensuring safety and encouraging robust investment by the private sector.

Powell said the Army Corps of Engineers now estimates it will cost an additional $5.9 billion to repair levees enough to fully protect and insure nearly 1.1 million residents of the greater New Orleans area.

That is in addition to the $3.5 billion the Bush administration has so far sought to bring the levees back to at least their pre-Katrina levels by June 1, the start of the 2006 hurricane season.

Over the next 60 days the Corps will be strengthening levees and building storm-proof pumping stations and flood gates to close canals in the event of a major storm.

LARA JAKES JORDAN (AP)

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BOMBS AWAY: Thieves have stolen about 2,000 16th-century cannonballs from a castle in Germany, police said Thursday. Internet auction sites suggest collectors in the country are willing to pay about $24 each for the devices, which were made in 1575.

World

In Brief

JERUSALEM

Suicide Blast Kills 3 Israelis

A Palestinian suicide bomber in the West Bank killed three Israelis, just days after the new Hamas Palestinian government took office and Israel elected a premier who pledges to pull out of much of the West Bank. A huge blast incinerated a car at the entrance to the Jewish settlement of Kedoumim in the late evening hours on Thursday, sending plumes of flame and smoke into the air. The Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a violent offshoot of Fatah, claimed responsibility. (AP)

RISALPUR, PAKISTAN

Nation's First 4 Female Pilots Inducted Into Military

With ceremonial pomp and aerial acrobatics, Pakistan on Thursday welcomed the first four female pilots into its air force at a grand parade watched by the Islamic nation's No. 2 general. Saba Khan, Nadia Gul, Mariam Khalil and Saira Batool received their wings after 3½ years of intensive training, breaking into an all-male bastion of Pakistan's armed forces. (AP)

DAVID LONGSTREATH/AP

Protesters rally against the prime minister near the Thai election commission.

BANGKOK, THAILAND

PM Backers Face Off With Protesters Ahead of Vote

Supporters of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra forced an abrupt end to a rally by the country's chief opposition party Thursday, bringing political tensions to a boil ahead of a general election this weekend. Opposition Democrat Party leader Abhisit Vejjajiva and former Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai were among those on stage when their rally in Chiang Mai was interrupted by rowdy Thaksin supporters, shouting through loudspeakers and waving signs. (AP)

CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

Police confront students trying to block railway tracks at the Gare de Lyon station in Paris on Thursday to protest the labor law.

Panel Upholds French Law

Focus falls on whether Chirac plans to sign disputed labor statute

PARIS | France's Constitutional Council upheld a contested labor law Thursday making it easier to fire young workers, leaving President Jacques Chirac to decide the next step as students and labor unions threaten more mass protests.

Chirac's office said he would speak Friday about the law, which proponents say will spur hiring and help solve France's chronic youth unemployment. Students and labor unions say it will erode France's long-held and cherished workplace protections.

Thursday's ruling by the council's nine appointed members allows the law to go into effect — depending on Chirac's actions — in what could be a turning point in the high-profile dispute.

Chirac

Chirac doesn't face any easy choices. If he signs the law, he risks a social battle and more protests. Sending the law back to parliament would be a blow to Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin, who has championed the law, leaving Chirac's governing party drifting just a year before presidential and legislative elections.

Lawmakers and government officials have speculated that Chirac would push through the law, standing by Villepin as he has throughout the crisis.

The measure allows a two-year trial period for workers under 26, during which companies can fire them for no reason.

The jobs plan has taken a drastic toll on the popularity of Villepin, a poet, writer and longtime aide to Chirac appointed premier in May. He has never been elected to office, but was widely considered a presidential hopeful for next year's vote.

EMMANUEL GEORGES-PICOT (AP)

Taylor's Trial May Be Moved

Ex-Liberian leader's war crimes tribunal could go to The Hague

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE | Trial in Africa is too risky for a man accused of fomenting bloodshed across West Africa, international prosecutors said Thursday in requesting that Charles Taylor's trial for crimes against humanity be moved to The Hague in the Netherlands.

Taylor

The former Liberian president is set to become the first African head of state tried for war crimes before an international court. He has been indicted on 11 counts for allegedly supporting a brutal rebel movement in Sierra Leone.

Peter Andersen, a spokesman for the U.N. tribunal, said court officials had requested the trial be moved. "But I wish to stress that it would be the Special Court of Sierra Leone sitting in The Hague," he said.

Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf also raised concerns about stability Thursday, saying in an address to her nation that The Hague would be a "more conducive environment" for Taylor's trial than so close to Liberia, where many still support him. (AP)

HEARSAY | BOOK IT

"You can travel the seas, poles and deserts and see nothing. To really understand the world, you need to get under the skin of the people and places."

—BRITISH COMEDIAN MICHAEL PALIN
A FORMER MONTY PYTHON ACTOR WHO HAS WRITTEN A BOOK ON TRAVEL THAT OFFICIALS HAVE DECIDED WILL BE REQUIRED READING IN BRITISH HIGH SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY CLASSES

Iran Defiant on Latest Nuke Warning

BERLIN | A top Iranian envoy defiantly rejected a U.N. Security Council demand for a halt in uranium enrichment, saying Thursday that Tehran's activities are "not reversible," despite new calls to reconsider from the United States, its key European allies, Russia and China.

Ali Asghar Soltanieh, Tehran's chief representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear watchdog, said "it is impossible to go back to suspension.

"This enrichment matter is not reversible," he said by phone.

Iran's defiance cast a pall on a meeting of top officials of the five permanent Security Council members plus Germany meant to demonstrate consensus on confronting Tehran over its nuclear program. After two hours of talks that were twice as long as planned, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said the six nations were "united."

But Russia and China suggested otherwise, expressing opposition to strong council action against Tehran after the meeting .

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov specifically challenged U.S. assertions that Iran was trying to make nuclear arms, saying no proof existed of such claims. (AP)

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World

PLAY TIME: A rare complete copy of the First Folio of Shakespeare's plays will go on sale in July in London. The 36-play compendium may fetch as much as $6 million.

Study: HIV Falling in India

Researchers find 35% drop in critical areas, credit education efforts

NEW DELHI | The number of HIV infections has fallen by more than a third among young people in southern India, the worst-hit region of the South Asian nation, according to a study published Thursday in a leading medical journal.

The 35 percent drop in HIV cases among people aged 15-24 was the result of better prevention — and not due to deaths from AIDS, researchers from the University of Toronto said in a study published on the Web site of the Lancet, a British medical journal.

The researchers singled out efforts by the Indian government, the World Bank and other non-governmental groups to educate sex workers and the men who frequent them about the dangers of HIV, efforts that "appear to have contributed to a drastic decline" in new infections.

India has an estimated 5.13 million people with HIV, second only to South Africa, although the percentage of those with the AIDS-causing virus is much lower than in many parts of Africa.

Still, there are fears that ignorance and the stigma attached to the disease could hamper prevention efforts and lead to an explosion in new infections across India.

NIRMALA GEORGE (AP)

TRACKING HIV IN INDIA

➜ **A research** team tracked HIV prevalence among 204,050 young women and nearly 60,000 men between 2000 and 2004.

➜ **The team** found that the prevalence rate in the four southern states, which account for about 75 percent of India's HIV infections, fell from 1.7 percent in 2000, to 1.1 percent in 2004. (AP)

MEXICO | SUMMIT LEADERS TAKE TIME FOR SIGHTSEEING

TOM HANSON/CP/AP

THREE AMIGOS: Mexican President Vicente Fox, left, President Bush, center, and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper walk along the steps of the Mayan Pyramid in Chichen Itza, Mexico, on Thursday. The three leaders met to hold talks on trade, border security issues and how to keep a North American edge in the ever-changing global economy.

Dozens Die After Bahrain Ferry Sinks

MANAMA, BAHRAIN | A ferry carrying up to 150 people sank Thursday night in the Persian Gulf off the coast of Bahrain, and at least 44 bodies had been recovered, the country's interior minister said. American divers and a U.S. helicopter aided the rescue effort.

Interior Minister Sheik Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa said at least 52 people had been rescued.

The official Bahrain News Agency said the ferry was on an evening cruise that was to last several hours. It overturned less than a mile off the coast, it said.

There was no indication of what caused the ferry to sink in what appeared to be ideal weather conditions. The government dismissed terrorism as a cause, and the news agency quoted Interior Ministry spokesman Maj. Mohammed Ben Dayna as calling the sinking an accident.

The passengers were thought to be a mix of Bahrainis, nationals of other Gulf Arab nations and Westerners. (AP)

DEFENDERS RETREAT: The Maryland public defender's office said Thursday that it will not assist John Allen Muhammad any more in his murder trial in Montgomery County, a day after a judge ruled that the accused sniper could act as his own attorney.

Local

Moran Suggests Smithsonian Fee

Congressman thinks $1 for museum entry is a reasonable idea

WASHINGTON | The Smithsonian Institution, which has not charged people to visit its museums for 160 years, should begin doing so to pay for critical repairs, according to a Northern Virginia congressman.

A member of the appropriations panel that approves Smithsonian funding, Rep. James Moran, made the suggestion during congressional hearings in which a Smithsonian official said the complex is crumbling because there is not enough money.

"Personally, I don't understand why we don't charge a fee," Moran said Wednesday, adding that charging $1 a person would be reasonable.

Moran

Moran said that keeping the Smithsonian free is becoming harder to justify given the funding it needs for operations and repairs and the mounting demands on congressional funds.

Sheila Burke, Smithsonian's deputy secretary and chief operating officer, said the idea of charging a fee had been considered and rejected three times by the Smithsonian Board of Regents. (AP)

NATIONAL ZOO | HITCHING A RIDE

JESSIE COHEN/NATIONAL ZOO

DAD PITCHES IN: A male golden lion tamarin, native to Brazil, carries his two 9-day-old newborns on his back in a photo released by the National Zoo. The mother of the newborns is currently resting and regaining strength after birth. In the meantime, the father is safeguarding the babies.

Washington Post Radio Goes Live

WASHINGTON | The Washington Post's new all-news radio station, WTWP, started broadcasting Thursday morning on 1500 AM and 107.7 FM, the long-time homes of all-news radio station WTOP.

Utah-based Bonneville International jointly owns and operates Washington Post Radio. Bonneville's WTOP can now be heard on 103.5 FM in Washington and 820 AM in Frederick, Md.

WTWP features local, national and global news, plus commentary and analysis from the Post.

Washington Nationals baseball games will also be broadcast on the new station. (EXPRESS)

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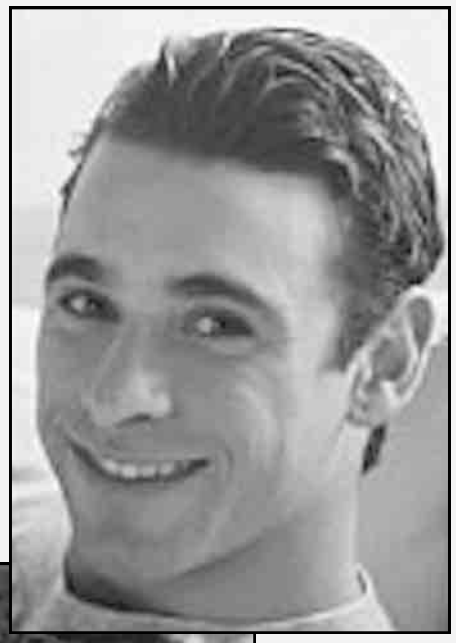

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SMART MOVE: Users of SmarTrip cards on Metro can rejoice. It is now possible to transfer the balance of any paper fare card, regardless of value, to one's plastic electronic SmarTrip card.

Cabbies Push for Payment

Taxi services: Metro needs to pay up for paratransit assistance

WASHINGTON | Three taxicab companies that provide transportation for the region's disabled transit riders say they're not getting paid on time and that could hurt the service.

They say the company that operates the MetroAccess service still owes them nearly $500,000.

MV Transportation began providing the service in January for Metro.

MV uses its own fleet of vehicles as well as subcontractors and taxi companies to provide curb-to-curb service for about 16-thousand disabled people in the region.

A spokeswoman for MV says the payment delays have been caused by questionable or incomplete billing from the taxi companies.

Von Pelot, a spokesman for Red Top Cab Company in Arlington told The Washington Post the cab companies can't continue to be part of the deal if they don't get paid promptly.

LATE NIGHT ALERT: Due to Saturday night's daylight's saving time switch, the last Metrorail trains leaving downtown D.C. will depart an hour earlier than normal. (EXPRESS)

IN The Washington Post | TAKING TO THE STREETS

STEVEN KING/WASHINGTONPOST.COM

STUDENTS SKIP SCHOOL: Around 1,500 students in Northern Virginia, many draped in Latin American flags, poured into the streets of Arlington and marched to Courthouse Plaza on Thursday to protest a proposed federal bill that would crack down on illegal immigration. | **Today in Metro**

Naval Officer Accused In '96 Killing Convicted

ALEXANDRIA, VA. | A former naval intelligence officer accused in the 1996 disappearance of his ex-wife, was convicted Thursday of kidnapping resulting in death.

Prosecutors convinced the federal jury that Jay Lentz lured his ex-wife from her Arlington home to his home in Fort Washington, Md., under the pretext of seeing their daughter. Officials said the child was with relatives at the time.

Doris Lentz' body was never found, but her blood-soaked car later turned up in the District.

Lentz has been in jail since his arrest in April 2001. He was convicted on the same charge in 2003 and a jury also recommended he be sentenced to life in prison.

A week later, U.S. District Judge Gerald Bruce Lee set aside the verdict, saying the prosecution had not proved its case. He also accused a prosecutor of planting inadmissible evidence in the jury room — two diaries that belonged to Doris Lentz. Some jurors said the diaries helped push them toward a conviction.

An appeals court in 2004 overruled Lee and cleared Mellin of misconduct charges, but agreed to a new trial because jurors had seen the inadmissible evidence. (AP)

The Lotteries

Thursday, March 30

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	**0-2-6 (White)**
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	**0-0-9 (White)**
Evening Lucky Numbers (Thurs.)	**6-7-0 (White)**
Mid-day DC 4	**2-0-6-5**
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	**4-8-8-9**
Evening DC 4 (Thurs.)	**8-6-7-9**
Rolling Cash Five (Wed.)	**5-19-23-31-35**
Rolling Cash Five (Thurs.)	**14-04-27-02-29**
Daily 6 (Wed.)	**14-21-23-24-31-37 (27)**
Daily 6 (Thurs.)	**06-16-01-33-12-11 (27)**
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	**2-9-14-35-38 (10)**

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	**7-7-1**
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	**6-6-4**
Evening Pick 3 (Thurs.)	**6-8-8**
Mid-day Pick 4	**3-2-7-2**
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	**5-4-0-6**
Evening Pick 4 (Thurs.)	**4-3-5-2**
Match 5 (Wed.)	**5-12-16-28-38 (6)**
Match 5 (Thurs.)	**01-13-19-32-34 (14)**
Multi (Wed.)	**11-12-23-27-33-34**

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3	**1-1-8**
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	**8-6-3**
Mid-day Pick 4	**3-7-8-6**
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	**9-8-6-6**
Mid-day Cash 5	**4-6-26-29-31**
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	**2-7-10-15-34**
Win For Life (Wed.)	**4-13-14-33-37-41 (21)**

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.)	**2-14-24-28-54 (13)**
Power Play	**X2**

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

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National Institutes of Health, Clinical Center

INFLUENZA

Doctors at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are conducting a research study (#06-I-0105) to evaluate the safety and tolerability of a new investigational drug called peramivir. This drug is related to some of the drugs currently used for influenza. It would be the first drug used for influenza that could be given by vein. Doctors believe that it may be more effective in treating influenza viruses than current medications. Participants will be compensated.

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Money

Workers' Web Use Curbed

Companies cracking down on use of tools like IM, outside e-mail

Companies are clamping down on employees' workplace use of the expanding range of free Internet services, such as instant messaging and video downloading, to protect themselves from viruses, communications traffic jams and regulatory missteps.

General Electric Co., for example, has barred outside instant-messaging and file-sharing programs, as well as access to personal online e-mail accounts like those offered by Yahoo Inc.

The corporate crackdown underscores an emerging challenge for the Web. As the spread of broadband technology makes it possible for millions of Americans to watch TV on the Web or make cheap phone calls, companies, government agencies and universities are concerned about the possible side effects — including the threat of a worm or other bit of malicious code sneaking into their systems.

Internet phone service Skype, which is owned by eBay, and other service providers say such concerns are overblown. They say their products are in many cases safer than e-mail attachments, a common source of viruses that are nonetheless seen as indispensable tools.

Telecom company Global Crossing started blocking its employees' access to personal e-mail accounts on sites like Yahoo after a virus used them to slip in.

"I used to think nothing of checking my Yahoo mail several times a day," says Global Crossing Chief Marketing Officer Anthony Christie.

At Britain's Cambridge University, some colleges and departments ban Skype, fearing their data networks could become giant hubs for Skype transmissions from all over Europe.

Michael Jackson, Skype's vice president of operations, says that many technologies that are now crucial business tools were once greeted with suspicion. "Many organizations were initially scared of the Internet and e-mail," he said. "Now there's hardly a workplace on the planet that doesn't have an Internet connection."

SHAWN YOUNG (THE WALL STREET JOURNAL)

Delphi May Seek to Void Contracts

DETROIT | In a move that would send shudders through an ailing U.S. auto industry, Delphi Corp. was expected to ask a federal judge to cancel its union contracts Friday following months of trying to reach an agreement with General Motors Corp. and its unions to lower workers' wages.

Delphi, the largest U.S. auto supplier, had set a deadline of Thursday to reach an agreement to lower wages for its 34,000 U.S. hourly workers, but it appeared unlikely Delphi would meet that goal since the United Auto Workers and GM hadn't agreed to Delphi's latest wage proposal as of Thursday afternoon.

On three other occasions, Delphi has delayed filing motions to cancel its contracts to continue talks with GM and its unions. The company has the option of delaying again. (AP)

KICHIRO SATO/AP

A deadlock with parts supplier Delphi could be a new blow to the auto industry.

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
SchiffNutr	5.98	+.90	+17.7
LamSessn	27.03	+2.33	+9.4
GpoTMM A	4.92	+.42	+9.3
Aztar	42.42	+3.37	+8.6
IvanhM g	9.45	+.70	+8.0

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
KnightTr s	19.77	-2.01	-9.2
Hartmx	9.00	-.88	-8.9
TexInds s	61.48	-4.59	-6.9
WolvTub	4.21	-.30	-6.7
CarMax	33.50	-2.24	-6.3

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
SpatiaLt	3.60	+1.24	+52.5
PharDrDis	5.73	+.91	+18.9
MovieGal	2.77	+.43	+18.4
Lanoptic	9.21	+1.39	+17.7
Impreso	2.05	+.30	+17.1

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
SigmaTel	8.86	-1.27	-12.5
LanVision	7.00	-.99	-12.3
DCAP Grp	2.78	-.35	-11.2
TrackDat	3.09	-.38	-11.0
MultiFnElc	59.34	-6.94	-10.5

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
-65.00	+3.04	-2.64
-0.58	+0.13	-0.20
11150.70	2340.82	1300.25

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	7.75	7.50
Fed Funds close	4.75	4.5625
3-month disc	4.50	4.58
2-year	4.84	4.74
10-year	4.86	4.70
30-year	4.90	4.72

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5727	.5764	.5323
Canadian Dollar	1.1601	1.1725	1.2169
European Euro	.8223	.8316	.7738
Japanese Yen	117.29	117.74	107.53
Mexican Peso	10.9301	10.9653	11.2240
Taiwanese Dollar	32.49	32.55	31.73

Pharmacy Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
AbtLab	42.64	-.28	+8.1
Allergan	108.50	-.13	+.5
AstraZen	50.85	+.33	+4.6
BarrPhm	62.64	-.54	+.6
BrMySq	24.95	+.01	+8.6
ForestLab	44.26	...	+8.8
Hospira	39.33	-.22	-8.1
IvaxCorp	25.98	...	-17.1
JohnJn	59.35	-.16	-1.2
LillyEli	56.05	-.27	-1.0
Merck	35.61	-.19	+11.9
Pfize	25.20	-.04	+8.1
SchergPl	19.22	...	-7.8
Sepracor	49.09	+.50	-4.9
Wyeth	48.66	-.14	+5.6

NATIONALS
Battle of the Beltway: The Nationals and Orioles play in the area twice this weekend. Who will you be cheering for? | **16**

Sports
Weekend

Final Fantasy

Confident Patriots are on the cusp of one of the greatest upsets ever

JONATHAN NEWTON/TWP

MASON HOOPS | By now, you know the Connecticut Assassins Association isn't a rap crew.

You know Jim Larranaga isn't Dr. Phil's protégé, despite his psychological savvy.

You've probably even heard enough factoids to write a Wikipedia entry on George Mason himself. (A dozen kids? Who knew?)

The Patriots are marching on Indianapolis. Join them, or get out of their way.

But a week's worth of feel-good features aside, the true lesson of Mason's improbable Final Four run may be this: It's one thing to espouse fearlessness. It's another to practice it.

Overcoming double-digit deficits against North Carolina and Connecticut is about as easy as stealing from Tony Soprano (before he got shot).

That is, unless you don't care about the other team's reputation.

Cinderella can't have a good time at the ball if she harps on the powers conspiring against her.

"I don't think about the name on their jerseys," said senior Lamar Butler, the Washington D.C. Region's most outstanding player. "The main thing is that it gives me more motivation to play against those guys. There's no fear or intimidation at all."

For Mason (27-7), UConn star Rudy Gay was just another player they had to guard. UNC's Tyler Hansbrough may as well have been another tall guy who stopped by the Y for an afternoon run.

"They breathe just like us. They're human just like us," sophomore Folarin Campbell said. "So we just go out there and play."

The Patriots will take on Florida (31-6) on Saturday (6:07 p.m. tip). The Gators are the No. 3 seed out of the Minneapolis Region and were a trendy pick to reach Indianapolis at the tournament's outset. Regional MOP Joakim Noah (14.2 ppg) is getting all the press, but all five Gators starters average double figures. They play solid defense and shoot well from the perimeter. Sound familiar?

"Satisfaction doesn't really have to do with [beating a big-name] opponent," senior Tony Skinn said. "It's more within the team and knowing what we've accomplished. It's a good feeling right now. but we can't be satisfied because we have a chance to do something nobody else has ever done." ERIC BRANDNER

ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

Is Florida the next giant to fall to George Mason?

KEYS TO THE FINAL FOUR

➜ **Just kicking it out:** George Mason and Florida have similar offensive strategies: Pound the ball down low and then spot up their shooters.

➜ **Paint-minders:** The Patriots can't afford big men Jai Lewis or Will Thomas to get in foul trouble.

➜ **Wings draining prayers:** Folarin Campbell and Lamar Butler have been sensational, shooting 59 percent from the floor and 50 percent from three.

TV Lineup

DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

Tim Duncan and the Spurs have already lost once to the Wizards this year.

➜ **TEXAS TWO-STEP:** The Wizards wrap up their road trip with games against Yao Ming and the Houston Rockets Friday (8:30 p.m. on CSN) followed by a game against the defending champion San Antonio Spurs Saturday (8:30 p.m. on CSN).

➜ **FINAL FOUR:** George Mason finally takes the court again, this time playing Cinderella against Florida on Saturday (6 p.m. on CBS) in the first half of the Final Four. UCLA plays LSU after the Patriots' game ends.

➜ **FINAL FOUR 2:** The women's Final Four is heavy on the ACC, as Maryland plays North Carolina Sunday (7 p.m. on ESPN) followed by Duke vs. LSU (9 p.m. on ESPN).

➜ **NATS-O'S:** The Battle of the Beltway gives fans their first chance to see Washington play Baltimore in the area. Friday's game (7 p.m. on Channel 20) is at RFK and Saturday's matinee (4:30 p.m. on CSN) is at Camden Yards.

Ovechkin

➜ **GOALDEN:** Alex Ovechkin, closing in on 50 goals this year, leads the Capitals against the Ottawa Senators Saturday (7:30 p.m. on WB50).

➜ **KICK OFF:** D.C. United starts its season against Red Bull New York on Sunday (5 p.m. on CSN) at RFK Stadium. Freddy Adu is expected to start.

MIX-UPS | **Fowl Ball** Two Phillies fans have a right to be fighting mad. They recently received a DVD that was supposed to show Phillies highlights. Instead, it showed Spanish-language cockfighting, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported. The team sent some 4,000 DVDs out to season ticket-holders who hadn't renewed their plans, but apparently only those two discs contained video of the battling roosters. The DVD manufacturer, ProAction Video, took the blame, saying a few discs from a previous run were left when packaging began for the Phillies highlight reel. (EXPRESS)

HOME TEAM

Nationals hope their summer isn't like spring

NATIONALS | When the Washington Nationals take the field at RFK Stadium for tonight's exhibition game, the grass will be green and the weather will be warm and baseball will be back.

The Nationals, presumably, will just be happy to be out of Florida and wrapping up a tumultuous spring training, plagued by discontented players, injuries and the extended absences of those participating in the World Baseball Classic.

"This has been the oddest spring training I've ever been associated with," said manager Frank Robinson, who has four decades worth of spring trainings to choose from.

The story of the spring, of course, was Alfonso Soriano. The Nationals traded for the slugging second baseman in the off-season, only to learn that he was adamantly opposed to the Nationals' plan to move him to left field. Soriano returned from the WBC and after some tense moments – including his outright refusal to play the outfield in one game – he reluctantly relented.

Around that time, the Nationals were coming to grips with the loss of reliever Luis Ayala to ligament-replacement surgery. The steady right-hander injured himself pitching for Mexico in the Classic. Nationals officials contend that, coming off a previous injury, he should have been brought along more slowly.

He'll be joined on the disabled list by starting shortstop Cristian Guzman (shoulder), first baseman/catcher Robert Fick (elbow), and pitchers Ryan Drese (shoulder) and Brian Lawrence (elbow). Lawrence, penciled in as the No. 3 starter after arriving in a trade, injured himself on the first day of spring training.

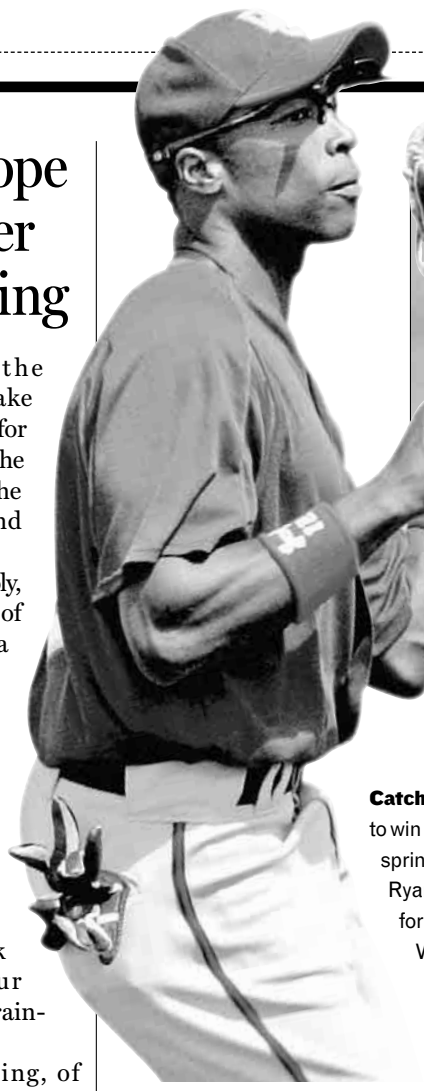
Throw in a nagging wrist injury to power-hitting right fielder Jose Guillen, an epidemic of errors in the field and the surprise demotion of center fielder Ryan Church and the Nationals appear in desperate need of a silver lining.

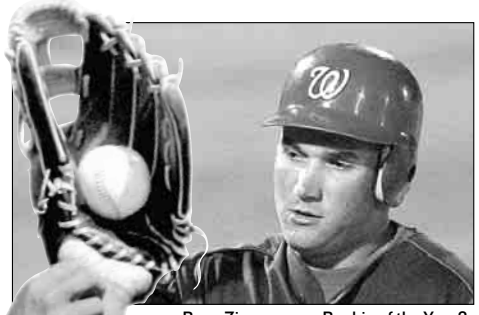
> "This has been the oddest spring training I've ever been associated with."

They can, however, point to solid performances by front-of-the-rotation starters Livan Hernandez and John Patterson. Or the offensive emergence of third baseman Ryan Zimmerman and center fielder Brandon Watson, both rookies.

It has been an exhausting time for general manager Jim Bowden, but he knows that spring training is rarely an accurate indicator of regular-season success.

"To me, it has been one nightmare after another," he said. "It's like I am working for the fire department and putting out fires every day. But I have been through springs like this before, and then the season starts and you are in a pennant race all year. We are hoping that will happen here." DEREK TURNER





Ryan Zimmerman: Rookie of the Year?

Brandon Watson: Fast man

Jose Guillen: He's back!

Nick Johnson: Has a big contract to live up to

Brian Schneider: A rock behind the plate

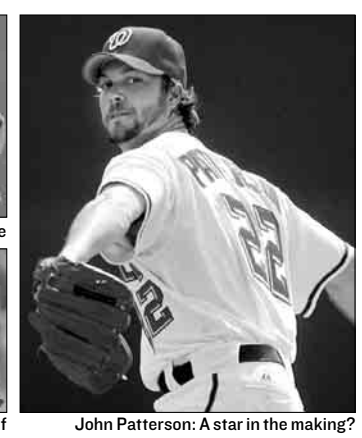
Jose Vidro: Can he stay healthy?

Catching up with the Nats: Alfonso Soriano isn't going to win any fans with his glove, based on the reports out of spring training. But his bat, coupled with the addition of Ryan Zimmerman as a full-time starter, should make for an improved offense that will also feature Brandon Watson's speed and Jose Guillen's power. Brian Schneider, Nick Johnson and Jose Vidro should provide consistency if they can stay healthy.

Hail to the Chief: If last year taught us anything, it's that if Washington can get to closer Chad Cordero, it is in good hands. Getting there might be the problem for a team that lost pitchers Esteban Loaiza and Hector Carrasco to free agency. John Patterson and Livan Hernandez are a strong start to a rotation, but who will step behind them is anyone's guess. Look for Gary Majewski to play a bigger role with set-up man Luis Ayala out for the season.

Livan Hernandez: Staff ace

Gary Majewski: Good in relief



John Patterson: A star in the making?

The Rivalry Begins

Nats, Orioles fight for fan allegiance in first games in the D.C. area

RIVALRY | OK, everybody off the fence. It's time to pick a side.

North or South. National League or American. Nationals or Orioles.

When the Washington and Baltimore baseball clubs get together this weekend, for the first time outside the Florida sunshine, a rivalry will be born. Sure, they are only exhibition games, but it's about to get real — real fast.

A year ago, Washington began its love affair with the Nationals as the team went about its inaugural season segregated from Peter Angelos' Orioles a short trip up the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. It's not the case this year. Major League Baseball has deemed the two franchises as interleague rivals, meaning they will play each other six times during the regular season, in addition to exhibition games tonight at RFK Stadium and Saturday at Camden Yards.

During Washington's three-decade absence from the big leagues, many area baseball fans looked north for their fix. These fans now must weigh their memories of Cal Ripken Jr. and Jim Palmer against their allegiance to the hometown team.

"I think that this is going to be the year that the loyalties really start to shake out, whether you really are a Nats fan first or an Orioles fan first," said Colin Mills, president of the Nats Fan Club. "But whether you love the Orioles or you hate them, I think that everybody appreciates that this isn't just another game."

NIKKI KAHN/TWP

The Nationals drew 33,651 fans per game in their first season at RFK Stadium.

NIKKI KAHN/TWP

Orioles fans still exist despite the fact that D.C. has a team of its own now.

In the first year of the fight for the baseball fans' affection, the Nationals averaged 33,651 fans per home game, good for 11th in baseball en route to an 82-82 finish. The Orioles drew 32,404, 14th best even as the team fell apart in the second half of the season.

The smart money says those numbers will go up when the two teams meet. And this weekend provides a perfect warm-up.

"Certainly I think Nationals fans are, in a way, out to prove themselves and this is the way to do it," said Ian Koski, editor and co-founder of the fan site NationalsPride.com.

DEREK TURNER

Nats Make Final Cuts of the Spring

Only 8 on this season's roster opened up last year in Washington

NATIONALS | Daryle Ward and Wiki Gonzalez claimed two of the Washington Nationals' final backup spots Thursday, when the team released outfielder Michael Tucker and made three other moves to get down to the 25-man active roster limit.

Washington also sent right-hander Travis Hughes outright to Triple-A New Orleans, and reassigned catcher Alberto Castillo and right-hander Kevin Gryboski to minor league camp. Hughes cleared waivers and accepted his assignment to the minors.

The team's roster has 11 pitchers and 14 position players — and only eight of the 25 were with the Nationals on opening day in 2005.

Tucker, who hit .158 in spring training, was granted his unconditional release after losing out to Ward in competition for a reserve spot, while Castillo was beaten out by Gonzalez for the second-string catching job. Gonzalez's contract was purchased from New Orleans.

"Daryle Ward had a good spring, hit the ball hard, consistently throughout," manager Frank Robinson said. "We just felt like for the best 25 players on this ballclub, for starting the season, we would be better off with Ward than with Tucker."

With Ward, fourth outfielder Marlon Byrd, Matthew LeCroy (1B-C), Marlon Anderson (INF-OF) and Damian Jackson (INF-OF), Robinson said he feels much better about his late-inning options than last season.

"These people have done the job before with the bat," the manager said. HOWARD FENDRICH (AP)

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Escape From New York

Benson eager to focus on baseball, not the media in Baltimore

ORIOLES | Kris Benson believes the trade that sent him from the New York Mets to the Baltimore Orioles stemmed from false information and the betrayal of people he once regarded as friends. But as far as he's concerned, the Mets did him a favor.

"I was a little upset because I enjoyed my time in New York," Benson said. "But now that I realize the opportunity I have, it's going to be a good career move for me."

In 2005, his first full season with the Mets, Benson allowed three runs or fewer in 19 starts. He was 10-8 with a 4.31 ERA, but New York won 17 of the 28 games in which he pitched.

Despite those numbers, he was traded to the Orioles in January for pitchers Jorge Julio and John Maine. Mets GM Omar Minaya contended that Anna Benson, who wore a provocative dress to the team's Christmas party and discussed posing for Playboy, was not a factor in the trade.

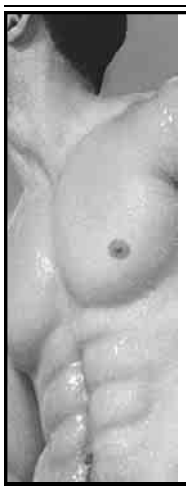
JENNIFER SZYMASZEK/AP

Anna Benson, right, gets more media attention than husband/ O's pitcher, Kris.

Either way, Benson is now focused on using the advice of esteemed pitching coach Leo Mazzone to raise his game.

"It's over with. The media in New York kind of took it too far. Anna is happy with my career here in Baltimore, and she's excited about me working with Leo," Benson said. "She continues to do her thing in New York City. It's probably a better situation with her being in New York and me being in Baltimore, kind of relaxing and playing and not having to worry about the tabloid media." (AP)

LOPEZ TO DH: Orioles slugger Javy Lopez will start the year at DH after struggling trying to learn first base this spring and hitting only .139 through Wednesday. (AP)



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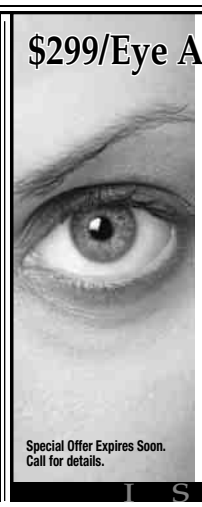

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ERIC RISBERG/AP

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE: A new book that says Barry Bonds used steroids led to the investigation of doping in baseball.

Mitchell At the Plate

Former senate leader known for fair play is key man in drug probe

BASEBALL | In turning to former Senate leader George Mitchell to unravel its steroid scandal, Major League Baseball enlisted a global troubleshooter with an insider's knowledge of the game.

Plainspoken, even bland, with skills honed in courtrooms, boardrooms, in Washington and on the international stage, Mitchell brings a rare range of experience and a reputation for something at risk in baseball — fair play.

President Clinton once offered the former U.S. attorney a spot on the Supreme Court. His stewardship of the Northern Ireland peace talks made him a celebrity on another continent. He was the architect of a Middle East peace plan that won international support in 2001, and he led an investigation into alleged bribes in Salt Lake City's bid for the 2002 Olympics.

MARY ALTAFFER/AP

Mitchell and Bud Selig face scrutiny.

Baseball's investigation will test those sterling credentials.

The 72-year-old Mitchell is part of the baseball establishment — a director with the Boston Red Sox who has dreamed of becoming commissioner. Already there are questions from critics who say the league needs to clean house, not redecorate.

"Of course he has some ties to baseball, but we know what they are. Everybody will be watching to make sure he plays things absolutely straight," former commissioner Fay Vincent said. (AP)

Conte: Book 'Full of Outright Lies'

DOPING | BALCO founder Victor Conte insisted Thursday that he never gave performance enhancing drugs to Barry Bonds and that a new book that makes those claims is "full of outright lies."

Conte spoke to The Associated Press outside his San Mateo home hours after his release from prison, where he spent four months after pleading guilty to orchestrating an illegal steroids distribution scheme that allegedly involved many high-profile athletes, including Bonds.

TONY AVELAR/AP

Victor Conte holds "Game of Shadows" on the day he was released from prison.

Asked whether he gave Bonds steroids, Conte said: "No, I did not."

"Game of Shadows," by two San Francisco Chronicle reporters, chronicles the founding of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative and details alleged extensive steroid use by Bonds and other baseball stars. Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig announced Thursday that former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell will lead an investigation into the claims. (AP)

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D.C. Remains United

Four-time champions haven't changed much from last year's roster

UNITED | It has been five months since D.C. United's season of untimely meltdowns ended in a memorable first-round playoff implosion. That time has been a busy one in American soccer — MLS clubs have been moved and sold, several big names have changed addresses and the national team has been preparing for this summer's World Cup.

But all has been quiet on East Capitol Street, where the four-time champs did not add a single player who might see significant minutes.

Whether or not the issues that resulted in United's poor showing in last season's most critical games have been resolved, or even addressed, will become clearer beginning Sunday at RFK Stadium, where Jaime Moreno, Freddy Adu and the rest will open their 11th season against New York. The club has stayed and grown together, it is unlikely to lose any players during the World Cup and Adu's formerly strained relationship with Coach Peter Nowak is, by all accounts, as strong as ever. There are no excuses available.

JOEL RICHARDSON/TWP

Ben Olsen, Freddy Adu and Clyde Simms are just three of the returning stars for D.C. United, which will seek to regain its 2004 championship form this season.

"You hope the bad taste is left in our mouths," D.C. Technical Director Dave Kasper said. "But we basically concluded just before preseason that we were happy with our group. In the big games, where it really matters, we want to use all that we learned last year and build on that. We feel we have the talent to compete for a championship."

That talent includes Argentine imports Facundo Erpen and Lucio Filomeno, who joined D.C. late last season; MLS Cup 2004 MVP Alecko Eskandarian, who missed two-thirds of last season with post-concussion problems; and several younger veterans including Adu, a third-year player from whom much is expected.

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"He really wants it, and we give him a lot of credit for that," Kasper said of Adu. "We want him to be a starter week in and week out, having an impact, playing both sides of the ball and being a better pro."

BRIAN STRAUS

LISA BLUMENFELD/GETTY IMAGES

Lorena Ochoa shot a 62 on Thursday to take a four-shot lead over Michelle Wie.

Ochoa Grabs an Early Lead in Year's First Major

GOLF | Lorena Ochoa birdied her final hole to tie a U.S. LPGA major championship record at a 10-under 62, giving her a four-shot lead over Michelle Wie among early starters in the Kraft Nabisco Championship on Thursday.

Ochoa, a 24-year-old Mexican who has struggled lately to close victories, broke the tournament record set by Mary Beth Zimmerman at Mission Hills in 1997.

The 62 tied the record in a major set by Minea Blomqvist in the 2004 Women's British Open at Sunningdale. (AP)

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Weekend | Sports

Noah's Arc of Triumph

Son of French tennis great becomes a star on the basketball court

FINAL FOUR | Wearing headphones and hustling to get to his biological anthropology class, Joakim Noah noticed someone following him.

He didn't say anything.

He didn't look over his shoulder.

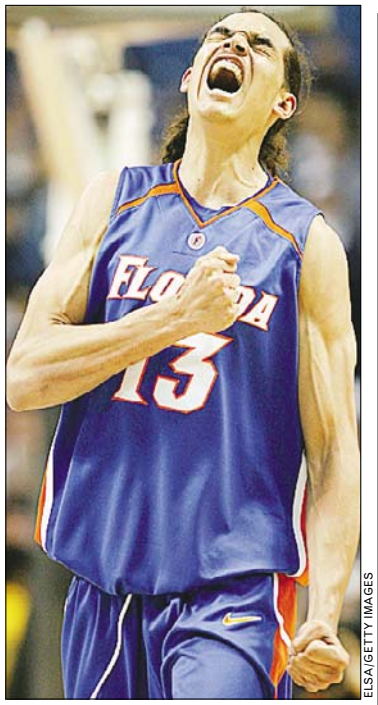
He didn't even care that the woman tailed him across campus and then grabbed a nearby seat in class.

He wondered what she was doing. Was she supposed to be there? Was she even a student? Was she stalking him?

He figured it out 50 minutes later, when she approached him after the lecture.

"She sat through the whole class and then asked me to sign a couple of T-shirts," Noah said.

Noah has received a lot of extra attention lately.



ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

Joakim Noah's charisma has turned Florida into a basketball school, for now.

He has famous bloodlines, worldwide experiences and a unique combination of talent and charisma — all of which has helped transform the 6-foot-11 sophomore forward from part-time player to full-fledged star at Florida.

Noah has been the catalyst for the team's run to the Final Four, where the Gators will play George Mason on Saturday night.

He is one assist shy of leading Florida in every major category during the NCAA tournament. He has 69 points, 40 rebounds, 19 blocked shots, 14 assists and six steals in four games.

Maybe more importantly, he brings an unparalleled level of enthusiasm to every game, every possession.

He screams after blocks, pounds his chest after dunks and challenges teammates to match his passion and effervescence.

"He is seizing every moment that he has on the court," point guard Taurean Green said. "He has been stepping up big for us. He's an emotional player. When he gets all hyped up, we just feed off of that and it gets us going." MARK LONG (AP)

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In Cinderella's Shadow

Final Four teams try to steal the spotlight from George Mason

FINAL FOUR | Florida, LSU and UCLA each have one seemingly impossible task this weekend — trying to steal some attention from the darlings of the Final Four.

"In the NCAA tournament, there are two things people love to see — a Cinderella story and a team that is so powerful and explosive they look invincible," Florida coach Billy Donovan said Wednesday during a conference call with the other Final Four coaches.

George Mason (27-7) fits Donovan's first description perfectly.

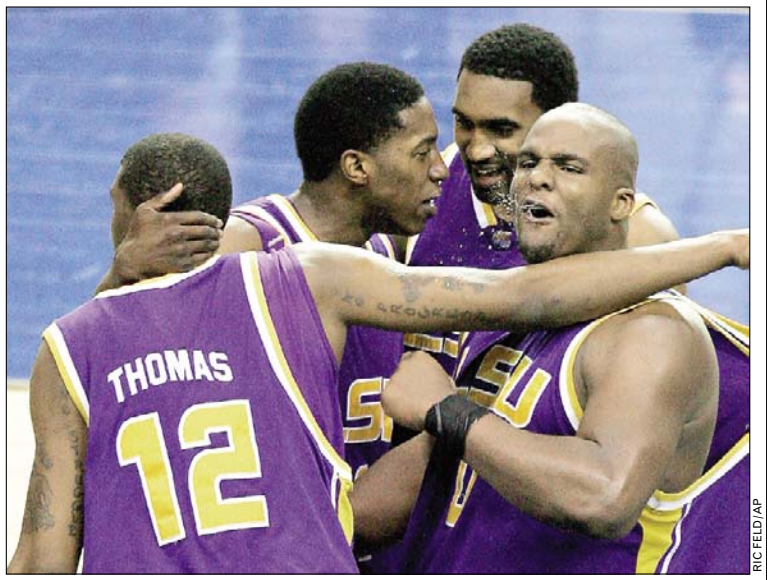
Coach Jim Larranaga spent part of Wednesday's news conference explaining how the university has dealt with its identity crisis, being confused with nearby schools such as George Washington and James Madison.

By winning four games in the tournament and becoming the first No. 11 seed in two decades to reach the national semifinals, though, George Mason now has a place in college basketball lore.

And the only way for Florida, LSU or UCLA to reclaim the spotlight is to ruin the feel-good story.

"What I told my team right after we were seeded and placed into the brackets was that it really doesn't matter where you're seeded, and I think George Mason is a testament to that and the parity in college basketball," UCLA coach Ben Howland said. "There's just so much parity now and the margin for error is so slight among the teams."

MICHAEL MAROT (AP)



RIC FELD/AP

THE LOST BOYS: Anyone remember LSU is in the Final Four? This week, George Mason has gotten all the media attention. Not just locally either, but nationwide.

Swengali

FINAL FOUR | BY MATT SWENSON

Why Not Make Some History?

WHY NOT GEORGE MASON? Call it wishful thinking, but the upstarts from Fairfax feel like a team of destiny.

In a week full of media attention that would overwhelm almost anyone, the Patriots seem as calm as ever on the eve of possibly making history.

Coach Jim Larranaga is still telling stories. The team is still playing baseball against each other. And, most important, Tony Skinn, Lamar Butler and company are embracing their role as Cinderella.

The Patriots just have to crash the ball and hope the clock doesn't strike 12 before they win the NCAA championship.

It's the perfect year for the underdog of underdogs to cut down the nets.

No offense to Florida, LSU and UCLA, but there's not exactly an unbeatable team out there.

So why not George Mason?

All the Patriots have going for them is experience, chemistry and Larranaga, who is on the coaching roll of a lifetime.

There has been nothing flukish about Mason's past four wins. The team plays great defense and can score from inside the paint and beyond the three-point arc.

That formula has been good enough to beat anybody not named Hofstra of late. What will change Saturday?

If UConn didn't intimidate Mason, Florida won't either. Nor will the sheer magnitude of the Final Four, since it's clear the Patriots only know how to have fun on the court.

> There has been nothing flukish about Mason's past four wins.

So, again, I ask, Why not George Mason?

There is no why not.

Matt Swenson is Express' sports editor.
E-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com

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3's Company For Terrapins

Maryland joins UNC, Duke in ACC-heavy Final Four in Boston

TERPS WOMEN | It's going to be an Atlantic Coast Conference party in Boston this weekend.

With the second-seed Maryland Terrapins joining top seeds North Carolina and Duke in the Final Four, the path to the national championship will look very familiar to coach Brenda Frese's squad. The pairings represent the first time in NCAA history that one conference placed three schools in the Final Four.

No. 1 Louisiana State is the only outsider in the bunch.

The Terrapins have reason to be optimistic. They've beaten both North Carolina, their opponent Sunday, and Duke this season. On the other hand, they've also lost to both of them. They know it will take peak performance to win it all.

"We feel pretty confident right now, but we know everyone is coming out here playing their best," said sophomore Crystal Langhorne, who this week was named to the Associated Press All-America team. "We are still going to have to come out and play great defense and rebound."

As has been the case all season, Langhorne's play will be critical in the Final Four. She scored 25 points in February when the Terrapins (32-4) handed the Tar Heels (33-1) their only loss this season. However, she was held to 12 points when Maryland fell to North Carolina in the ACC tournament final.

The Tar Heels did a particularly good job defending her, limiting the center to just one shot in the second half. Meanwhile, All-American guard Ivory Latta and forward Erlana Larkins scored 26 points each in North Carolina's 91-80 victory.

"We're learning more about [the Terps] and how to play them," North Carolina coach Sylvia Hatchell said after that game.

Hatchell's assessment will be put to the test this weekend. So too will be the growth of this young, but talented Maryland team.

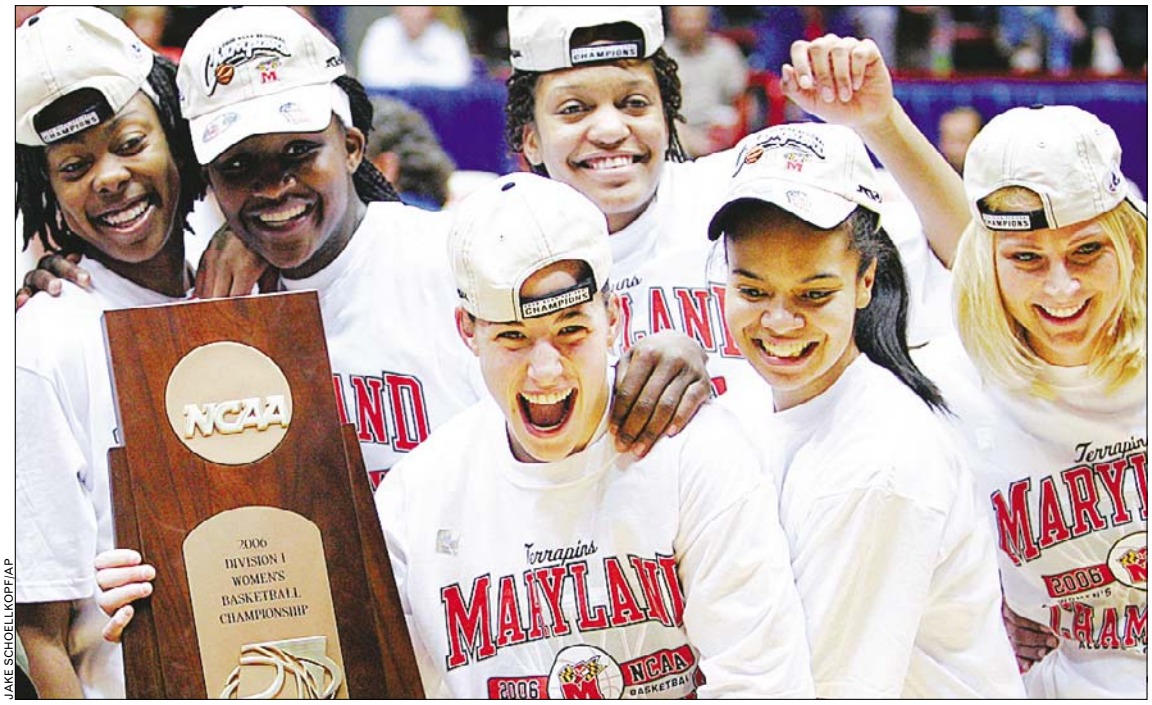
On selection day, many players expressed outright disappointment that they were not awarded a No. 1 seed. In Boston, as a No. 2 seed surrounded by No. 1s, they'll have the chance to prove the selection committee wrong once and for all.

But it won't be their first trip to the Fleet Center. During a road trip to Boston College in January, Frese took her players to visit the arena and asked them to visualize reaching the Final Four.

Now they're back and looking for that respect.

"We are one of the top [four] teams in the country right now," Langhorne said. "Hopefully, people will recognize how good we are." DEREK TURNER

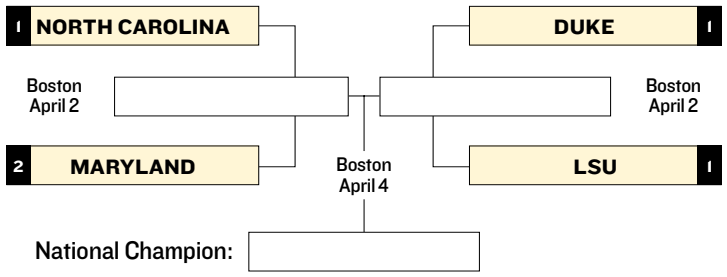
WHO KNEW? The last time a conference dominated a Final Four like the ACC has done this year was in 1985 when the Big East also had three teams in the men's Final Four.



JAKE SCHOELLKOPF/AP

CAROLINA ON THEIR MIND: Maryland, the only team to beat UNC this season, will face the Tar Heels for a spot in Tuesday's final.

NCAA 2006 | THE FINAL FOUR



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Madness Comes to Mason

Patriots deal with the media crush resulting from Final Four run

MASON HOOPS | For Gabe Norwood, the strangest part of George Mason's Final Four run has been the rumors.

"People on our floor are saying Sean Connery is going to play [coach Jim Larranaga in the movie about Mason]," the 6 foot 5 sophomore said after practice Tuesday.

Movie? At this point, it wouldn't be surprising.

The cameras turned out en masse Tuesday afternoon for another glimpse into the Patriots' improbable run. Larranaga —who had an audience of two reporters the day before Mason (27-7) left to play Michigan State two weeks ago — met a semicircle of scribes packed six deep in anticipation of his team's national semifinal matchup with Florida.

Larranaga has been the star of the Patriots' odyssey. His stories circulated through the Patriot Center again on Tuesday. Only this time, it was the players telling them.

"We released butterflies my sophomore year outside the Patriot Center," senior Lamar Butler said. "We actually had a ceremony. We were laughing and he was trying to get us to be serious. I just couldn't be serious releasing a butterfly. We actually waved goodbye to the butterflies as they flew off."

And the message that day?

"I can't remember."

Well, the week has been a blur.

Larranaga said he'd had just eight hours of sleep in the two days since beating Connecticut.

Forward Will Thomas hasn't gotten much rest either, thanks to some of his fellow students. "People keep pulling the fire alarms where we live," said the forward, who resides with his sophomore teammates. "There was one Sunday night, and when the firemen left, 10 minutes later they pulled it again."

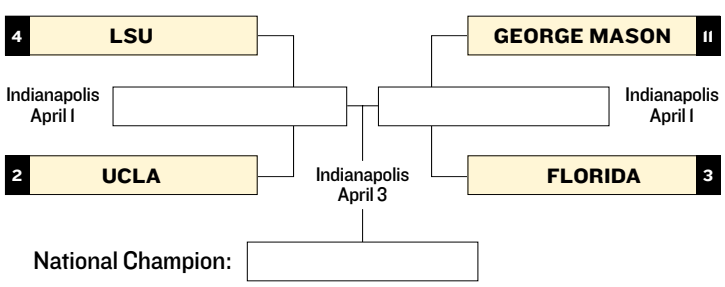
Apparently the Mason kids haven't mastered couch burning yet. But they sure are excited about one of the most unlikely Final Four berths in NCAA history.

"A lot of people have come up to me and congratulated me on everything we've done and saying how we've brought George Mason alive now," Folarin Campbell said. "This campus, people said it was dead. Now, a lot of people are just walking around happy." ERIC BRANDNER

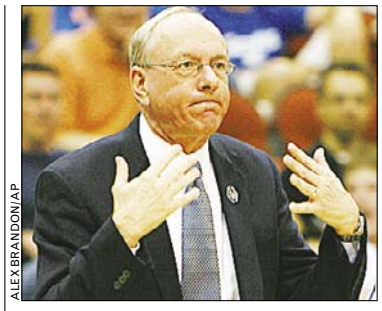
GERALD MARTINEAU/TWP

George Mason students send the Patriots off to Indianapolis at a pep rally this week.

NCAA 2006 | THE FINAL FOUR



High profile: George Mason will use this Final Four run to enhance its athletic program | **Today's Post, A1**



ALEX BRANDON/AP

Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim cites Mason as a reason to expand the field.

Boeheim: Add More Teams to The Big Dance

COLLEGE HOOPS | Jim Boeheim wants more schools playing in the NCAA tournament, and his coaching colleagues appear to agree.

The Syracuse coach believes the tournament field should expand from its current 65 teams and hopes to start lobbying for an increase Friday during a meeting with the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

"I have a number in mind, I think it should probably be about four to six, somewhere in there," Boeheim said. "The problem really is that it shouldn't come down to logistics."

Boeheim believes the rapid increase in Division I schools, to more than 300, and increased parity, as demonstrated by George Mason reaching the Final Four, indicates its time to include more teams. (AP)

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Entertainment Weekend

NIGHTLIFE AGENDA
Pop Life: Local singer-songwriter Sarah Azzara, the return of the Orb and the closing of Foggy Bottom landmark Lulu's | 16

A Welcome Slug

The slimy antics of 'Slither' herald a director to watch

FILM | In a world of brain-dead horror remakes, writer-director James Gunn didn't just set out to redo any old fright flick. In the body-snatchers-from-space tale "Slither," he aimed to remake them all — and more.

With the gore-minded glee of a fan attuned to every cinematic scare tactic, Gunn also knows how silly they are, infusing "Slither" with a wicked sense of parody while still crafting a clever, maniacally paced twist on B-movie slimefests.

Gunn establishes the story in a quick opening segment as a meteor hurtles toward Earth. Cut to the Southern burgh of Wheelsy, where bored police chief Bill Pardy (Nathan Fillion of the cult TV series "Firefly" and its big-screen spinoff "Serenity") and a deputy fritter away time in a patrol car by checking the speed of a whippoorwill with their radar gun.

UNIVERSAL

SOMETHING ICKY THIS WAY COMES: "Slither" sends up B-movie slimefests.

They're so benumbed by the snail's pace of their town that they never notice the fiery flash behind them as the meteor crashes in the woods.

Things quickly speed up, though, as lunk-headed businessman Grant Grant (Michael Rooker) stumbles on the meteorite and the giant, oozy slug that crawls out of it. Grant becomes host for a parasite that turns him into a freakish, tentacled predator whose activities unleash hordes of slimy worms that turn the townsfolk into meat-hungry zombies.

Pardy and Grant's wife, Starla (Elizabeth Banks) race through a rip-roaring night of the living dead as they try to put down Grant and his zombie army.

The grisly creature effects and themes of parasitic possession pay respect to "The Thing," "Invasion of the Body Snatchers," the "Alien" franchise, the George Romero zombie flicks and countless other creature features.

Hollywood has hit on a dependable little gold mine churning out shoddy horror remakes. Here's hoping Gunn, who has a truly creative vision for the genre, can find the same commercial success.

DAVID GERMAIN (AP)

Talk Among the Animals

The chatty beasts of 'Ice Age 2' embark on another antic quest

FILM | He's the centerpiece of the movie's poster. He's the creature the kids are all waiting to see. And he steals the show with every fleeting moment he's on screen.

Once again, Scrat, the little part-squirrel, part-rodent thing upstages the top-billed talent with his manic antics to secure his precious acorn.

The movie is right on par with the 2002 original: brisk, pleasant and loaded with slapstick that should keep young children giggling, though repetitive enough that parents at times may feel they're sitting through the first "Ice Age" all over again.

BLUE SKY FILMS

TOOTHSOME: The cute, gabby critters of "Ice Age: The Meltdown" face challenges and find friendships on their trek away from their soon-to-be-flooded valley.

The vocal trio of the original — two-thirds droll and dour with Ray Romano and Denis Leary, one-third babbling whirlwind with John Leguizamo — is smartly enlivened through the saucy addition of Queen Latifah as a spunky female mammoth.

But it's those moments with Scrat — whose bleats, grunts, howls and yelps are voiced with inarticulate glee by "Ice Age" director Chris Wedge — that are the most memorable.

As the title suggests, endless winter is coming to a close for the prehistoric posse of talking animals. Best pals Manny the mammoth (Romano), Diego the saber-toothed tiger (Leary) and Sid the sloth (Leguizamo) discover a giant ice dam holding back the sea is melting and about to break in a deluge that will flood their valley. So the gang starts a long migration to safety at the other end of the valley.

Even more so than the first movie, the sequel comes off as a series of comic episodes strung together along a loose central story.

In fits and starts, though, the fanged little goof asserts himself as the heart and soul of the "Ice Age" tales, adding warmth and loony pathos to what otherwise would be only a sturdy but temperate franchise.

DAVID GERMAIN (AP)

Got Plans?

FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

Where is the best place to watch the Mason game on Saturday?
Mister Days will have a VIP line for GMU students and Bud/Bud Light buckets for $8. Ned Devine's has GMU appreciation day from 5-9 p.m. with half-priced everything while they show the game. Love will show the game on all TVs with complimentary Budweiser. At Hawk and Dove, you get happy-hour prices if you wear your team colors.

Mister Days, 3100 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington; 703-527-1600. (Clarendon)

Ned Devine's, 2465 Centreville Road, Herndon; 703-793-7376.

Love, 1350 Okie St. NE; 202-347-5255.

Hawk and Dove, 329 Pennsylvania Ave. SE; 202-543-3300.

PRESTON KERES/TWP

Lamar Butler celebrates after the victory over UConn.; GMU plays Saturday.

I've been craving Korean food. What are your recommendations?
Hit Koreatown in Annandale for the highest concentration of restaurants with the most authentic food. Annangol, Choong Hwa Woon and Yechon are our picks.

Annangol, 4215 Annandale Center Drive; 703-914-4600.

Choong Hwa Woon, 4409 John Marr Drive; 703-256-8006.

Yechon, 4121 Hummer Road; 703-914-4646.

The Going Out Gurus think you should get out more. Join the discussion Thursdays at 1 p.m. | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

Now Playing

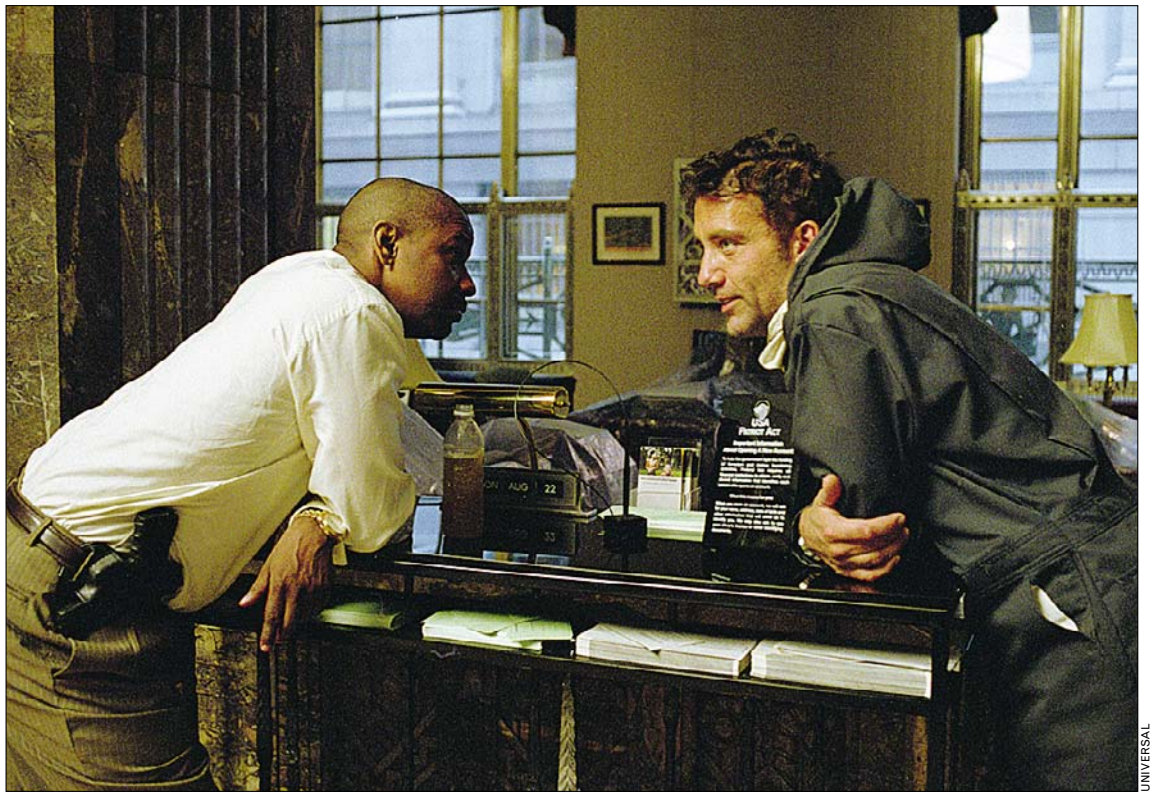
AQUAMARINE (PG, 109 minutes) This mild-mannered comedy tells the story of 13-year-old best friends Claire (Emma Roberts) and Hailey (Joanna "JoJo" Levesque), who discover a mermaid named Aquamarine (Sara Paxton), who has come ashore to find love. She immediately sets her baby blues on a lifeguard named Raymond (Jake McDorman), whom Claire and Hailey have been crushing on all summer. The direction isn't particularly distinguished, but this movie is better than nothing for its woefully underserved tween audience. (AH)

BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2 (PG-13, 99 minutes) Martin Lawrence is FBI agent Malcolm Turner, who slaps on the big lady equipment (again) so he can pose undercover as a nanny to uncover the nefarious doings of the big daddy of the household. To add subplot injury to main-plot insult, Malcolm has to keep his mission secret from the FBI and his pregnant wife (Nia Long). Please tell me you've heard enough. (DT)

THE BOYS OF BARAKA (Unrated, 84 minutes) This rich, satisfying documentary follows four inner-city boys who discover their potential at a boarding school in Kenya. We meet them as they wend their way through tortured schools and troubled families. Each has demonstrated potential, though, and they are recruited to attend the Baraka School, founded in 1996 by a Baltimore-based foundation. "Baraka" is a soaring, complex testament to survival, character and hope. (AH)

CRASH (R, 100 minutes) The aftermath of Rodney King and 9/11 seems to sear the nostrils of every Los Angeleno in Paul Haggis' Oscar-winning white-knuckle hatefest among characters of almost every ideological, cultural or religious stripe. Asians, Latinos, whites, blacks, rich and poor, Muslim and Christian all clash in this multi-character story. If "Crash" only showed the dark side of humanity, it would barely be worth the viewing. But the movie is also about the best in people. (DT)

DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R, 103 minutes) This film was shot in September 2004, when Dave Chappelle had just signed a $50 million deal for his comedy series. There's an innocent joy and a genial detachment, as if he's playing host to his own celebrity. But there's something deeper at work. Even with his cutting racial satire, he seems uniquely positioned to appeal to white and black Americans. (DT)



UNIVERSAL

TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN: Denzel Washington and Clive Owen play adversaries on opposite sides of the law who have a surprising amount in common in Spike Lee's taut, twisty film "Inside Man," about a bank robbery that goes dramtically wrong.

EIGHT BELOW (PG, 120 minutes) Eight canines pull their weight literally and figuratively in this lively adventure.The movie, based on true events, starts out with a gripping setup, in which National Science Foundation guide Jerry Shepard (Paul Walker) takes an arrogant scientist on an expedition. When a storm forces the humans to evacuate, Jerry is told he can't go back for the dogs. The movie is an often agonizing depiction of how these animals save themselves, and the sequences of them trying to survive are magnificent and deeply moving (AH)

FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13, 97 minutes) This movie is one of the best American films in months and the best comedy since I don't know when. Matthew McConaughey plays a 35-year-old boy-man who still lives with his parents. They hire Sarah Jessica Parker, a specialist in emptying nests, to get him to fall in love with her and move out. On this simple, sturdy frame, the writers work all kinds of comic riffs. The movie is so swift and sure, you can say: It achieves liftoff. (SH)

FIND ME GUILTY (R, 125 minutes) As cinematic distractions go, this one's right up there: the spectacle of Vin Diesel playing a real-life Italian American mobster. With hair. And a gut. Talk about suspension of disbelief. Once I got over that, I found myself charmed by Diesel. Playing the morally compromised Giacomo "Jackie Dee" DiNorscio, Diesel infuses the Lucchese family made man with a convincing cocktail of sweetness and rage. But I was less enamored with the film's scraggly script. This is a courtroom drama without much drama going on. (TERESA WILTZ)

THINKFILM

DIY

Amateurs, Unite!

FOR "AWESOME: I ... SHOT THAT!," the Beastie Boys handed out video cameras to 50 fans and told them to go wild gathering footage of their October 2004 Madison Square Garden show. But because these are fans behind the cameras, the video is usually headache-inducing in its jerkiness. And the strobe effects and frantic edits certainly don't help, the cuts coming as quickly as DJ Mixmaster Mike works the turntables. The Beastie Boys don't need all this visual trickery and embellishment. As the trio works their way through hits including "So What'cha Want," "Brass Monkey," "Sure Shot" and "Sabotage," they reveal once again that they're a complete blast to watch. CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)

FIREWALL (PG-13, 120 minutes) Harrison Ford plays Jack Stanfield, a security systems designer who is held at gunpoint, along with his family, by a criminal mastermind who knows Jack designed the security for a global bank. Jack must save his family and outwit the bad guys. Unfortunately, Ford's brand of action-hero has become obsolete — at least for him. Although the actor looks great for 63, the job calls for vigor and virility. (DT)

GAME 6 (R, 86 minutes) This movie actually springs from the head of a novelist, the postmodernist legend Don DeLillo. It's about a playwright named Nicky Rogan (Michael Keaton) who's on the verge of a nervous breakdown. But the movie's about as serious as the drunk writer's tale. If Rogan's not drinking, he's riding in taxis and making pointless chitchat with the drivers.It never gets either funny or interesting. (SH)

THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R, 105 minutes) This remake of the alleged 1977 Wes Craven classic is by French director Alexandre Aja ("High Tension"), who is a great reworker. The basics are: A disputatious, dysfunctional clan is headed to California. You can tell they're doomed to slaughter, in all sorts of ways: burning at the stake, pickax in the head, etc. Aja was clearly working on a big budget for his first American film and was told he could do anything he could think of. Visually, the movie is wildly alive, full of sure touches. (SH)

INSIDE MAN (R, 129 minutes) A deft, tense, pure thriller, this movie has great star turns and is brilliantly directed by Spike Lee. One morning, a Wall Street bank is taken over by heavily armed robbers. Cops quickly gather, headed by Detective Keith Frazier (Denzel Washington). But just when you think the movie's going to settle down to "Dog Day Afternoon II," it mutates weirdly (the first of several times) with the arrival of Jodie Foster, whose job is to make certain no one discovers what's in a certain safe deposit box. The movie is full of attractive people, smart dialogue, surprises and final satisfaction. (SH)

JOYEUX NOEL (PG-13, 116 minutes) This film tells the true story of a spontaneous truce during the first winter of World War I, when German, French and Scottish troops laid down their arms and spent Christmas singing carols, exchanging tobacco and whiskey and otherwise

Continued on page 26

Weekend | Entertainment

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Continued from page 25

briefly subverting the forces of war. The first two-thirds of the movie are strangely inert, as the characters and historical context are established, but it ends with a moving and sophisticated meditation on the definition of moral duty. (AH)

LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG-13, 89 minutes) This film features but one joke and it's only funny the first time, although they tell it 88 more times. Larry, who is to blue-collar as John Wayne is to westerns, appears in some tony setting where his low-rent, get-r-done crudity and his amply displayed gluteus maximus groove shocks a batch of swanky, indignant twerps, until his natural cunning and goodness bites them on the, er, assumption. Larry (Dan Whitney, by birth) has had a great ride as a stand-up comedian on cable and albums, but as an actor he's still trying to master the "don't bump into the furniture" skill of screen performance. (SH)

MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13, 107 minutes) This Tyler Perry movie is a cultural phenomenon, and understanding that is key to understanding the world of Madea (Perry in a dress, wig and big-breasted fat suit), a tenderhearted black woman who talks straight as she tries to guide lost and broken souls. Some can point to other films of higher artistic quality that deal with resurrecting broken and battered souls of African Americans. Yet Perry has figured out how to deliver his message in a way that has mass appeal. (MARCIA DAVIS)

MATCH POINT (R, 124 minutes) In Woody Allen's new film, Jonathan Rhys-Meyers plays Chris Wilton, a retired tennis player who has given up the pro circuit to teach the rich and untalented. He starts dating a student's sister (Emily Mortenson), when he meets the sultry Nola (Scarlett Johansson). This film is elegant, uncompromising and oh-so nasty. (DT)

MUNICH (R, 140 minutes) Steven Spielberg's film focuses on a small Israeli killing team tasked with hunting and destroying the Palestinian Black September planners of the Munich Oympics massacre of 1972 across Europe and the Middle East. Give the movie credit for its rigor in facing the depressing problem of vengeance. But the film uses memories of the Munich Olympics massacre. Those events should be more than just fodder for ginning up tension at the end of a commercial movie. (SH)

NIGHT WATCH (R, 116 minutes) This Russian film is a swiftly moving plunge into a world populated by vampires, seers, shape-shifters and spellbinders. It is an adaptation of the science fiction-fantasy novel of the same name and, like all sci-fi fantasies, is full of tiresome exposition and convenient loopholes. But director Timur Bekmambetov handles these narrative bumps with ease, infusing even the goriest of horror-movie cliches with equal parts macabre fascination and jaunty humor. (AH)

THE PINK PANTHER (PG, 92 minutes) Steve Martin dares to play Inspector Jacques Clouseau, the bumbling French policeman immortalized by Peter Sellers in Blake Edwards's "Pink Panther" franchise. Those weren't great films, but it was the little Sellers moments that made even the weakest "Pink Panther" a cinematic untouchable. In this version, most of the humor derives from Martin's silly French accent. (AH)

THE SHAGGY DOG (PG, 99 minutes) This movie is a pointless remake of the 1959 Disney classic. Tim Allen plays Dave Douglas, a Type-A careerist and dog-hater who, through a series of mishaps too ridiculous and tiresome to describe, is injected with the blood of a 300-year-old dog and turns into the pooch of the title. He discovers that he may not be a bad dog but that he has been a terrible husband and father. The movie

JAAP BUITENDIJK

STEAMING UP THE SCREEN

Aging Gracelessly

OFTEN LURIDLY LAUGHABLE in its action, dialogue and huffy-puffy sexual imagery, "Basic Instinct 2," director Michael Caton-Jones' follow-up to the steamy 1992 flick that launched Sharon Stone spares no expense in fashion, sets, cinematography and other technical trappings. Stone's black-widow crime novelist has moved to London, where she's accused in a sports star's death and focuses her wiles on the criminal psychiatrist (David Morrissey) assigned to evaluate her mental state. Of course, she drags him through the muck, along with his mentor (Charlotte Rampling) and a Scotland Yard detective (David Thewlis). Stone remains hot in the role, but the thought that her character still plays pathetic little games of conquest all these years later is kind of sad. DAVID GERMAIN (AP)

Now Playing

is a nasty, unappealing Allen vehicle, whose comedy chiefly derives from stupid stunts. (AH)

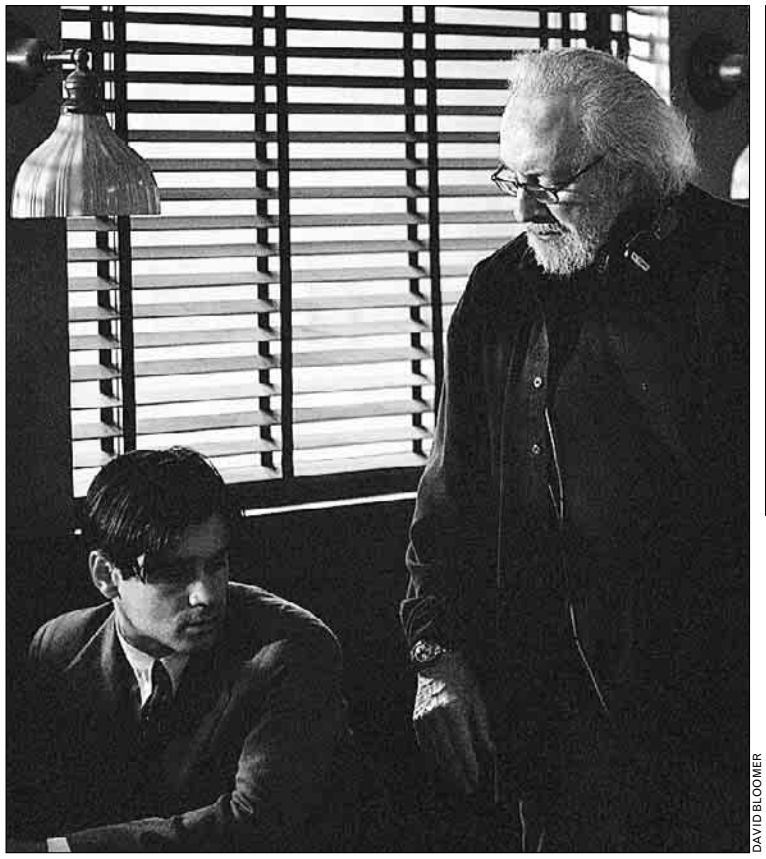
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13, 105 minutes) In this teen-oriented tribute to Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," Amanda Bynes plays Viola, a soccer jock who disguises herself as her twin brother to join his school team. Bynes's rubbery expressions are occasionally funny, but there's no way people couldn't see through her disguise. For the teens this is aimed for, this won't matter. But once again, Hollywood makes the mistaken assumption that cribbing Shakespearean plots and dumping the poetry will somehow download the Bard's brilliance. (DT)

16 BLOCKS (PG-13, 105 minutes) This movie follows dispirited cop Jack Mosley (Bruce Willis) as he is assigned to escort crook Eddie Bunker (Mos Def) across Lower Manhattan to testify before a grand jury in two hours' time. What neither realize is that the guy Eddie is about to blow the whistle on is a cop, and if he's indicted, that cop will rat out an elite group of detectives. So the cops improvise a series of assassination attempts along what is basically the Chinese New Year parade route to wipe out Eddie and, if necessary, Jack. This feeble thriller is full of nonsense and implausibilities. (SH)

SOPHIE SCHOLL: THE FINAL DAYS (Unrated, 117 minutes) This movie tells the true story of Scholl and her brother, who secretly printed and distributed fliers denouncing Hitler, the injustice of the state and the penchant for atrocity. The story has been told, but Marc Rothemund's riveting, near-documentary is based on a document that became available only after the fall of the Berlin Wall: the actual transcript of Sophie's interrogation by a secret-police functionary named Robert Mohr. (SH)

SOMETHING NEW (PG-13, 100 minutes) Kenya McQueen (Sanaa Lathan) is an African-American woman who goes on a blind date with a white man (Simon Baker). But her girlfriends and family make it clear they're not thrilled about this union, and the closer they get to one another, the more race matters. The fun — and the seriousness — of the movie is in watching a beautiful woman challenge an equal opponent. (DT)

THE SYRIAN BRIDE (Unrated, 98 minutes) Mona (Clara Khoury), a Druze living in the Golan Heights, wants to marry Tallel (Derar Sliman), who lives in Syria. But Syria will allow Mona to enter only if she settles permanently. She makes the painful choice to leave her family forever, but her plans are derailed by bureaucrats on both sides. The movie seems to line up every cultural, sexual and religious fender-bender it can for maximum conflict, but the device is used to reveal touching human complexity. (DT)



DAVID BLOOMER

HARD TIMES, NEW COUNTRY: Colin Farrell, left, stars as the Italian immigrant Arturo Bandini in Robert Towne's film adaptaion of John Fante's "Ask the Dust."

SYRIANA (R, 126 minutes) George Clooney plays CIA operative Bob Barnes, an avuncular career agent who used to know where all the bodies were buried — mainly because he did most of the digging. This is a premium-octane thriller about a society that has become insidiously dependent on oil. (DT)

THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R, 92 minutes) As a lobbyist for the tobacco industry, Nick Naylor (Aaron Eckhart) realizes that disingenuousness is a moral survival strategy: Don't think of cigarettes as a health hazard, Nick says, consider them a symbol of America's right to choose. Watching Nick get away with murder is the fun of this adaptation of Christopher Buckley's 1994 novel. But as a satire on Tobacco Inc.'s ability to market carbon monoxide as the elixir of life, this movie should be packing more nicotine. (DT)

THE THREE BURIALS OF MELQUIADES ESTRADA (R, 97 minutes) Rancher Pete Perkins (Tommy Lee Jones), needs a good man, and Melquiades (the noble Julio Cesar Cedillo) is the best cowboy he ever knew. Then someone puts a .223 through Melquiades's rib cage, and he dies in the dust. This taut, provocative film is about white people who learn through stunning adventures that nameless, faceless immigrants are actually humans. It's not earth-shattering, but it is painful and unforgettable. (SH)

TSOTSI (R, 94 minutes) This South African movie, which won Best Foreign Language Film at the Oscars, is a mixture of thrilling documentary-style realism and Hollywood hokum. It follows Tsotsi (Presley Chweneyagae), a thug. His life takes an unexpected turn when he steals a BMW with a 3-month-old baby in the back. As Tsotsi, Chweneyagae turns his face into a living battle mask, but as the story unfolds, his mask begins to crack and his humanity begins to flow through. (DT)

ULTRAVIOLET (90 minutes, PG-13) An ultra-stupid fusion of sci-fi cliche, cyberspace stylings and wretched kung fu antics, starring Milla Jovovich's muscle-y stomach — the only fascinating thing in this movie. She plays a "hemophage," a genetically engineered superhuman who, having tasted the pleasures of Godhood, does not want to give them up. With her chums (whose stomachs are not as inter-

Continued on page 29

CHRISTINE BURRILL

SHAPING THE FUTURE

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THE BELTWAY CAME TO South America in 2002 when consultants from the United States were hired to image-fluff Bolivian presidential candidate Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada. "Our Brand Is Crisis," a documentary following this process, offers jaw-dropping insights not so much into the inner workings of the Bolivian campaign process but the slimy guts of American power-branding. ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

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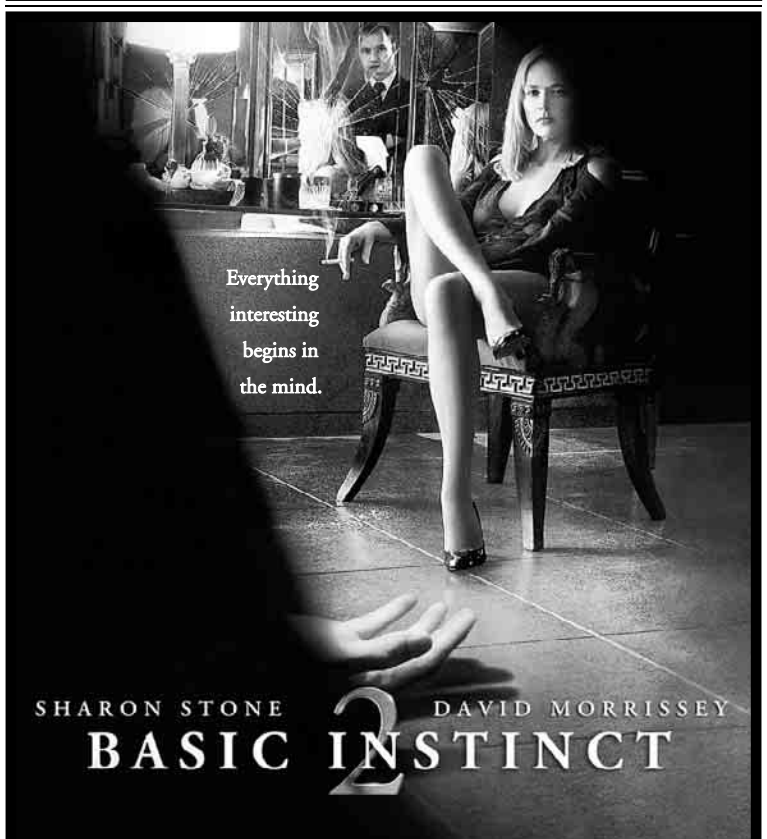

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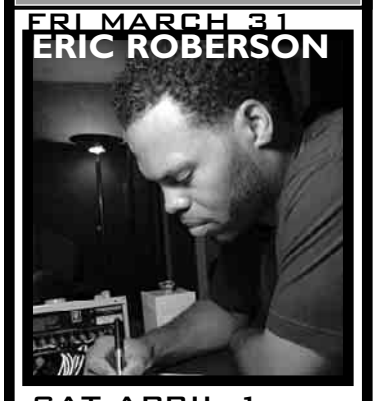

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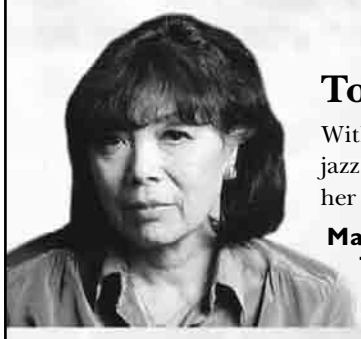

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The Kennedy Center

Now Playing

Continued from page 27

esting), she wages war on the high lords of society. It's navel warfare. (SH)

V FOR VENDETTA (R, 132 minutes) Hugo Weaving is a revolutionary dedicated to tearing down the state, but he looks like a guy in a comic book. (Wait, he was.) That ruins the audience's ability to connect with his lonely mission, so the film front-loads the regime he despises to make up in hatred what it can't create in empathy. The film is pulp claptrap; it has no insights into totalitarian psychology and always settles for the cheesiest kinds of demagoguery and harangue as its emblems of evil. (SH)

WALK THE LINE (PG-13, 136 minutes) This movie gets off to a promising start, sure to raise goose bumps, at the gates of Folsom Prison in 1968. Unfortunately, for all its good music and admirable vocal impersonations (by Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon), the movie slides — very, very slowly — downhill from there. (AH)

WHY WE FIGHT (PG-13, 98 minutes) Of all the incendiary, left-wing, anti-Bush screeds that seem to have become the flavor of the decade in the American documentary community, Eugene Jarecki's is probably the best. Jarecki isn't just a polemicist, he's also a filmmaker. The argument is that America is foolish and knavish in that it depends on a war economy and that the secret purpose of its foreign policy is to find enemies to justify huge military spending. (SH)

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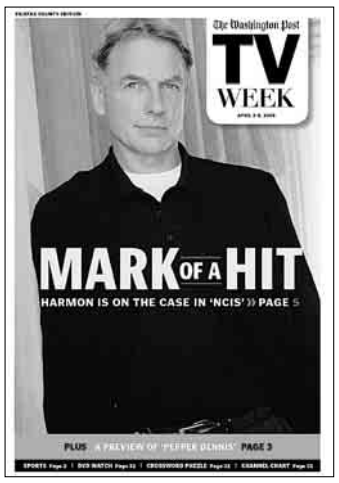
REVIEWS BY THE WASHINGTON POST'S **ANN HORNADAY, STEPHEN HUNTER, MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN** AND **DESSON THOMSON**. FOR MORE CAPSULES AND FULL REVIEWS OF THESE AND OTHER FILMS SEE THE **WASHINGTON POST WEEKEND SECTION**

Sunday in The Washington Post



Divine Harmon-y: Mark Harmon is a hit on "NCIS," and the show is a much-needed hit for CBS. He talks about fame and TV longevity. | *TV Week*

Coffee, Unplugged: Six of the best WiFi-enabled spots in the city; also, how to fix a grooming emergency; Easter egg kits; flirting in traffic. | *Sunday Source*

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Weekend | Entertainment

Nightlife Agenda

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TONIGHT?
BY DAVID MALITZ OF WASHINGTONPOST.COM

FRIDAY

Everyone knows about classic rock. But what about classic electronic? If such a genre existed, the Orb — Alex Paterson and Thomas Fehlmann — would be the equivalent of Led Zeppelin. The group's most recent album, "Okie Dokie It's the Orb on Kompakt," marks the duo's debut on influential German ambient-house label Kompakt and is a return to form after a couple of missteps. Enjoy the grooves at the **9:30 CLUB**.

LULU'S. We loved to poke fun at the nightspot that became synonymous with college functions, bachelorette parties and under-21 events. But now that it is closing for good tonight, it's a bit sad. Sure, Lulu's was far from the hippest place in town, but that was sort of the point. Lulu's was what it was, which is sort of refreshing. There will be a whole lot of letting loose tonight at the club's Closing Party, as a $20 cover gets you an open bar from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. We shudder to think of the debauchery that might occur.

ERIK DEAN

STUCK IN THE MIDDLE: Middle Distance Runner doesn't just make hot Brit-style rock; the D.C. band is more confident and professional than many local upstarts.

SATURDAY

For that brief time in the late '90s when it seemed like electronic music would be the Next Big Thing, Roni Size was one of the artists at the forefront of the scene. His 1997 album, "New Forms," remains a defining drum'n'bass record, sounding as fresh now as it did nearly a decade ago. He'll be sharing the decks tonight at the **9:30 CLUB** with Brazilian superstar DJ Marky, while MC Armanni Reign — who has feet in both the hip-hop and d'n'b scenes — provides vocal accompaniment.

Bands hoping to make a name for themselves could look to local quintet Middle Distance Runner for some tips. The group has made its music readily available — leaving free CDs at Iota, handing them out after shows at the **9:30 CLUB** — and it seems to be paying off. MDR's sound clearly draws on mid-'90s British rock and exudes confidence and professionalism. The Gaskets and the Cinematic Underground open.

It used to be that you couldn't read this column more than a few weeks without seeing a mention of our favorite drone-psych-folk-pop quintet Nethers. They've just been all over the country touring in support of their excellent debut album, "In Fields We Will Lie." Now the group makes its triumphant return home with a gig at Adams Morgan's **D.C. ARTS CENTER**.

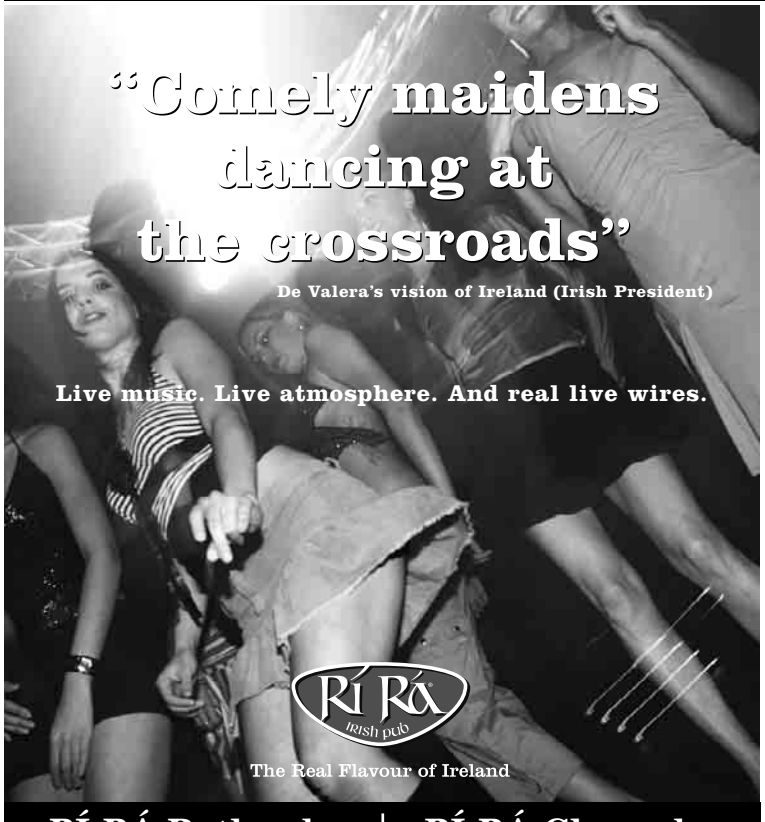
SUNDAY

Fans of gentle, tuneful indie pop will want to head to Arlington tonight, where it will all be about the melodies. Private Eleanor plays hushed songs that bring to mind downers like Elliott Smith and Iron & Wine, but rarely comes off as quite as depressing. Sarah Azzara is a local veteran who has been making sweet, simple pop music for the past five years and just released her latest album, "It Turns Us On." Tonight's show at **GALAXY HUT** serves as the CD release party. It will likely be a subdued party, but that's fine for a Sunday night.

BEN AZZARA

Singer-songwriter Sarah Azzara's gentle pop is more pretty than mournful.

Check out an extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" each Thursday at **washingtonpost.com/cityguide**



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V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1245 350) 705 1030
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STAY ALIVE (PG-13) DIG (1150 250 515) 810 1030
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ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center 800-FANDANGO 248#
Free Theatre Parking- Monroe Street Garage
Weeknights after 6 PM- all day Saturday/Sunday
Adv. Tix on Sale SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG-13) ★
ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN (PG) DIG ★ (1200 1225 230 255 500 525) 720 740 945 1020 1210
ATL (PG-13) DIG (1245 350) 750 1015 1235
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1255 400) 730 1005 1240
SLITHER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 300 515) 735 1000 1215
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG-13) DIG (1210)
STAY ALIVE (PG-13) DIG (1240 340) 715 1010 1230
INSIDE MAN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (100 325 430) 725 745 1035 1130
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) (1200 235 510) 755 1030
V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1235 330) 700 950
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13) DIG (1205 225 445) 705 940

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#
Adv. Tix on Sale SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale DCI CLASSIC COUNTDOWN (NR) ★
ATL (PG-13) DIG (145 410) 740 1015
SLITHER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (125 400) 730 955
V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (100 130 355 425) 650 720 950 1020
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) DIG (105 140 340 420) 645 725 930 1000
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) DIG (115 150 345 430) 655 735 940 1010
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) DIG (120 330) 700 920
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (200 440) 710 945

GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14
20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#
Adv. Tix on Sale SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG-13) ★
ATL (PG-13) DIG (100 410) 710 950 1215
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 400) 740 1020
SLITHER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 350) 720 1000 1220
ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN (PG) DIG ★ (1150 1215 115 220 245 350 440 510) 630 700 730 910 935 1000 1130
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG-13) DIG (1200 230 445) 715 950 1215
STAY ALIVE (PG-13) DIG (1210 230 450) 730 940 1210
INSIDE MAN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1215 115 315 415) 715 745 1015 1050
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) DIG (1240 345) 710 1005
V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1200 315) 700 1010
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) DIG (1230 330) 645 930
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13) DIG (100 400) 750 1020

UA SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14
9161 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#
Adv. Tix on Sale SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale DCI CLASSIC COUNTDOWN (NR) ★
ATL (PG-13) DIG (115 415) 800 1015
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1230 315) 700 950
SLITHER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (100 345) 730 1000
ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN (PG) DIG ★ (1230 115 200 300 400 445 530) 720 745 815 945 1015
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG-13) DIG (200 445) 800 1010
STAY ALIVE (PG-13) DIG (130 430) 745 1010
INSIDE MAN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1245 145 400 500) 720 830 1020
OC: V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (145)
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) DIG (1245 330) 645 930
V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (500) 815
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) DIG (130 415) 700 930
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13) DIG (100 330) 730 1000

MANASSAS STADIUM 14
11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#
Adv. Tix on Sale SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG-13) ★
ATL (PG-13) DIG (1250 320) 740 1000
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1240 330) 735 1010
SLITHER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1155 225 450) 725 955
ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN (PG) DIG ★ (1110 1140 1220 130 210 245 350 440 510) 700 730 800 925 950 1020
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG-13) DIG (1210 235 455) 755 1015
STAY ALIVE (PG-13) DIG (1135 150 405) 705 930
INSIDE MAN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1205 1235 305 340) 640 710 940 1005
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) DIG (1150 220 505) 750 1025
V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1225 325) 645 945
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) DIG (1120 155 425) 715 935
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13) DIG (1125 205 430) 650 920

Times For 3/31/06 Daily Bargain Matinees In ( ) OC= Open Captioned DA= Descriptive Audio Available * Pass / Discount Ticket Restrictions Apply ©2006

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CC - Closed Captioning · Descriptive Video Service · OC - Open Captioning

AMC HOFFMANN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

ATL (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 2:00, 4:10, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:35
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) ✓ 2:10, 5:05, 7:50, 10:40
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 11:45, 12:15, 12:45, 1:15, 2:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15, 8:45, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15
SLITHER (R) ✓ 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15, 12:40
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:35, 4:25, 5:25, 6:45, 7:30, 8:40, 9:50, 10:30, 11:50, 12:30
INSIDE MAN (R) CC ✓ 1:30, 4:25, 7:30, 10:30
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 3:05, 5:55, 7:55, 10:10
STAY ALIVE (PG13) ✓ 1:05, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:50
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 1:40, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 1:40, 4:05, 4:55, 7:05, 8:20, 10:20, 11:45
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:05
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 4:30, 7:05, 9:55, 12:30
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 12:05, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
AQUAMARINE (PG) 1:45
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 12:20, 3:00, 5:40, 8:25, 11:00
EIGHT BELOW (PG) 2:30, 5:20, 8:05, 11:00
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 11:45, 1:55

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

ATL (PG13) 1:10, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00
SLITHER (R) 2:00, 5:10, 8:00, 10:30
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:00, 4:10, 7:00, 10:10
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) 1:45, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20
STAY ALIVE (PG13) 1:30, 4:45, 8:00, 10:20
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 1:20, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 1:00, 4:10, 7:00, 10:00
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 1:30, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) CC 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE
Jenifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 12:00, 12:45, 2:20, 3:05, 4:40, 5:25, 7:00, 7:45, 9:20, 10:05
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 12:30, 1:30, 3:45, 4:30, 6:45, 7:30, 9:45, 10:30
INSIDE MAN (R) CC ✓ 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) ✓ 2:30, 7:20
STAY ALIVE (PG13) ✓ 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:55, 10:15
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 4:50, 9:55

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14
3111 K Street, N.W.
202-342-6441 821

ATL (PG13) ✓ 1:50, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45, 12:15
AWESOME: I FKIN' SHOT THAT (R)** ✓ 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35, 12:05
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) ✓ 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:10
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
SLITHER (R) ✓ 12:30, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:30
INSIDE MAN (R) 12:10, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 12:10, 12:55, 1:40, 3:20, 4:05, 4:50, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:40, 10:25, 11:10
INSIDE MAN (R) CC 12:10, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40
STAY ALIVE (PG13) 1:00, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 10:20
THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R) 12:15, 1:45, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15, 6:45, 7:45, 9:15, 10:15, 11:45
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 1:30, 4:35, 7:40, 10:45
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 12:45, 2:00, 3:15, 4:30, 5:45, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:40, 12:00

LOEWS WISCONSIN AVE. 6
4000 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
202-244-0882 714

ATL (PG13) 2:10, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30
SLITHER (R) 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 2:05, 4:30, 7:10, 9:20
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:00, 4:15, 6:55, 9:00
AQUAMARINE (PG) 2:15, 4:35
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 7:15, 9:25

LOEWS WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda
310-423-1014 741

ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
INSIDE MAN (R) 3:00, 7:00, 10:00
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 2:45, 6:00, 9:15
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 9:50
MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

ATL (PG13) 12:15, 1:35, 2:55, 4:15, 5:35, 7:00, 8:15, 9:45, 10:55
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) 12:05, 2:45, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) 12:00, 12:50, 1:40, 2:30, 3:15, 4:05, 4:50, 5:40, 6:30, 7:15, 8:05, 9:00, 9:40, 10:30
SLITHER (R) 12:35, 3:10, 5:45, 8:10, 10:45
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:10, 2:00, 4:10, 5:00, 7:10, 8:00, 10:15, 11:00
INSIDE MAN (R) CC OC 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) 12:25, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
STAY ALIVE (PG13) 1:05, 3:30, 5:50, 8:20, 10:40
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:35, 10:05
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 1:50, 4:45, 7:50, 10:50
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 12:10, 2:35, 4:55, 7:45, 10:10
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 7:20, 10:20
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 12:20, 3:00, 5:05, 7:25, 9:55
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 7:40, 10:00
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 4:30, 9:20
EIGHT BELOW (PG) 1:55, 4:40
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 12:55, 3:20, 5:25
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 2:10, 7:05

AMC RIVERTOWNE 12
Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd.
703-998-4AMC

ATL (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 1:00, 3:10, 4:20, 5:40, 7:20, 8:30, 10:30
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 12:30, 1:00, 3:10, 4:00, 5:25, 7:00, 8:10, 9:40
SLITHER (R) ✓ 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:00
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 1:20, 4:30, 7:50, 10:40
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 1:10, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 1:50, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 12:40, 3:00, 5:35, 8:00, 10:20
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 12:50, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:20, 7:30, 8:20, 10:10

AMC UNION STATION 9
Located at Union Station
703-998-4AMC

ATL (PG13) ✓ 1:25, 4:10, 7:30, 10:10
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 12:10, 2:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15
SLITHER (R) ✓ 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 1:45, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30
STAY ALIVE (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:00
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 1:20, 3:45, 7:20, 9:40
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 12:40, 4:00, 7:15, 10:15
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 12:15, 4:45, 9:50
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) CC 12:15, 4:45, 9:50
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 12:45, 3:30, 7:10, 10:05

AMC COUNTRY CLUB MALL 6
Country Club Mall on Vocke Rd near Route 68.
703-998-4AMC

ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 5:00, 7:50, 10:05
SLITHER (R) ✓ 4:30, 7:20, 9:35
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 4:20, 7:10, 10:05
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) ✓ 5:10, 8:00, 10:15
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 4:50, 7:30, 9:45
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 4:40, 7:40, 9:55

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12
800 Shopper's Way, Largo
301-324-4220 844

ATL (PG13) 12:15, 1:15, 3:05, 4:05, 6:15, 7:15, 9:00, 10:00
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) 1:40, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) 12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
SLITHER (R) 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:50
SLITHER (R) CC 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:50
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:10, 11:00
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50
STAY ALIVE (PG13) 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 4:45, 10:45
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:10, 8:15
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:30, 4:55, 7:30, 9:55
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 10:20 PM
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35

LOEWS SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph
703-671-0910 801

MARILYN HOTCHKISS' BALLROOM DANCING & CHARM SCHOOL (PG13) 2:00, 4:50, 7:50, 10:00
THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R) 1:40, 4:40, 7:00, 9:10
ASK THE DUST (R) 1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30
GAME 6 (R) 1:20, 4:30, 8:00, 10:00
MERRY CHRISTMAS (PG13) 1:10, 3:50, 7:30, 9:50
MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS (R) 1:30, 4:20
TRANSAMERICA (R) 7:20, 9:40
CAPOTE (R) 1:50, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

LOEWS DUPONT 5
1350 19th St.
202-872-9555 711

MARILYN HOTCHKISS' BALLROOM DANCING & CHARM SCHOOL (PG13) 2:15, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10
ASK THE DUST (R) 2:00, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05
WHY WE FIGHT (PG13) 2:30, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
CAPOTE (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16
7850 Tysons Corner Center
703-998-4262

ATL (PG13) ✓ 12:35, 3:05, 5:45, 8:20, 11:00
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) ✓ 12:05, 2:45, 5:25, 8:10, 10:50
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 12:00, 12:40, 1:30, 2:20, 3:10, 4:10, 5:00, 5:50, 6:45, 7:40, 8:35, 9:25, 10:15, 10:55
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) CC OC ✓ 9:25 PM
SLITHER (R) ✓ 12:45, 3:15, 5:35, 8:05, 10:40
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 12:25, 1:35, 2:35, 3:25, 4:25, 5:35, 6:25, 7:20, 8:30, 9:40, 10:30, 11:20
INSIDE MAN (R) CC OC ✓ 12:25, 3:25, 6:25
STAY ALIVE (PG13) ✓ 12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:25, 11:30
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 12:20, 2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 10:35
THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R) ✓ 12:05, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:45
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 12:30, 1:55, 3:40, 5:10, 7:00, 8:15, 10:10, 11:15
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 1:05, 3:30, 5:55, 8:25, 10:55
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:25, 9:50

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
410-423-0520

ATL (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 3:50, 6:35, 9:25
BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R) ✓ 1:55, 5:05, 7:50, 10:40
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 9:45, 10:45, 12:00
SLITHER (R) ✓ 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50, 12:15
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 12:15, 1:30, 3:45, 4:45, 7:00, 8:00, 10:15, 11:15
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) ✓ 4:50, 7:20, 9:55, 12:10
STAY ALIVE (PG13) ✓ 2:15, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35, 11:50
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 12:05, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:30
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 12:45, 4:15, 7:30, 10:35
V FOR VENDETTA (R) CC OC 12:45, 4:15, 7:30, 10:35
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:10
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 12:20, 2:40
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:10, 4:55, 7:35, 10:20
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 5:20, 7:55, 10:25
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 2:20

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

ATL (PG13) ✓ 12:40, 3:10, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 12:05, 1:30, 2:50, 4:40, 5:40, 7:30, 8:30, 10:20
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 5:35, 10:00
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 7:10, 9:40
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 3:20, 7:50
MUNICH (R) 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:20, 3:40

LOEWS WHEATON PLAZA 11
Viers Mill Rd. Btwn. Georgia & University
901-949-9202 746

ATL (PG13) ✓ 4:30, 7:30, 9:50
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) ✓ 5:30, 7:35, 9:55
SLITHER (R) ✓ 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
SLITHER (R) CC ✓ 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
INSIDE MAN (R) ✓ 4:05, 7:00, 10:00
LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) ✓ 4:10, 7:30, 9:50
STAY ALIVE (PG13) ✓ 5:40, 8:00, 10:10
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) 4:25, 7:10, 9:30
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 4:10, 7:00, 10:00
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 4:50, 7:25, 9:35
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 5:00, 7:25, 9:40
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 4:20, 7:20, 10:00

LOEWS FAIRFAX SQUARE 8
8065 Leesburg Pike
703-506-9857 802

LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR (PG13) 1:40, 3:50, 7:05, 9:30
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:45
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) CC 2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:45
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 2:15, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00
AQUAMARINE (PG) 1:30, 4:05
EIGHT BELOW (PG) 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
FIREWALL (PG13) 2:00, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 2:20, 5:00, 7:40
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) 7:00, 9:55
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 1:45, 4:50, 8:30
CAPOTE (R) 10:10 PM

LOEWS UPTOWN 1
3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
202-966-5400 713

V FOR VENDETTA (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

Times for Friday, March 31, 2006

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***ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN (PG)**
12:00, 12:50, 1:40, 2:30, 3:20, 4:30, 5:20 6:15, 7:05, 7:45, 8:40, 9:30, 10:20
***ATL (PG-13)**
12:30, 1:30, 3:45, 4:45 7:10, 7:55, 9:45, 10:35
***SLITHER (R)**
12:15, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45
***BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R)**
1:00, 4:00, 7:20, 10:15
***INSIDE MAN (R)**
12:10, 1:15, 3:30, 4:20 6:40, 7:30, 9:40, 10:30
***LARRY THE CABLE GUY (PG-13)**
1:20, 3:40, 6:20, 9:15
***STAY ALIVE (PG-13)**
12:05, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:40
V FOR VENDETTA (R)
12:25, 3:50, 7:15, 10:25
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13)
12:55, 3:55, 7:40, 10:10
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R)
1:25, 4:10, 7:20, 10:00
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG)
12:35, 3:35, 6:50, 9:55
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13)
1:05, 4:05, 7:00, 9:35
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R)
6:45, 9:20
16 BLOCKS (PG-13)
6:55, 9:50
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13)
1:35, 4:40, 7:35, 10:05
EIGHT BELOW (PG)
12:20, 3:10
CURIOUS GEORGE (G)
1:10, 4:25
SOMETHING NEW (PG-13)
12:40, 3:25, 6:30, 9:25

P&G WESTFIELD MONTGOMERY
7101 Democracy Blvd. Beth. 301-767-9555
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM!
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG)
1:00, 3:10, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13)
2:00, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
SHAGGY DOG (PG)
12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:25

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Center Court
Beltway Exit 23, W. on Greenbelt Rd.
301-220-1155
R-ID required
(!) No Pass/No Discount Ticket
ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6 PM ONLY $5.00
ATL (PG-13)
(!) 1:00, 1:30, 3:25, 4:40, 5:40, 7:20, 8:10, 10:15, 10:45
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG)
(!) 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 10:00
SLITHER (R)
(!) 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:40
INSIDE MAN (R)
(!) 1:45, 4:30, 7:25, 10:20
STAY ALIVE (PG-13)
(!) 1:00, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:30
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 4:00, 10:10
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG)
2:00, 5:00, 7:15, 10:10
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13)
1:20, 7:20

LANDMARK'S
BETHESDA ROW
7235 Woodmont Ave • (301) 652-7273
Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-FILM #805
Bargain Mats. all shows before 6 pm
TSOTSI (R)
2:00, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50
THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R)
1:40, 2:30, 4:10, 5:10 7:00, 7:45, 9:15, 10:00
THE SYRIAN BRIDE (NR)
2:10, 4:45, 7:35, 9:55
MARILYN HOTCHKISS' BALLROOM DANCING (PG-13)
1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40
SOPHIE SCHOLL (R)
1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45
ASK THE DUST (R)
4:15, 9:35
JOYEUX NOEL (PG-13)
1:45, 7:05
CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA (NR)
2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:05

LAUREL CINEMA 6
LAUREL SHOPPING CENTER RT. 1
301-604-2885
SHOWS BEFORE 6PM $5.00
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG)
3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
ATL (PG-13) 3:00, 5:15, 7:25, 9:45
MUNICH (R) 4:30, 7:35
DOOGAL (G) 3:00
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 4:45, 7:30
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13)
5:00, 7:15, 9:35

MARLOW 6 THEATRES
Temple Hills, Md. 301-316-1031
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13)
12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:10
ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN (PG)
12:25, 2:35, 5:00, 7:15, 9:20
SLITHER (R) 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:15
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 12:10, 3:00
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 6:00, 8:45
INSIDE MAN (R) 12:20, 3:10, 6:10, 8:50
ATL (PG-13) 12:40, 2:50, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30

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Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:50
Mon/Wed/Thurs 5:00, 7:00
Tues 1:30, 5:00, 7:00

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FAIR CITY MALL 703-978-6991
RT. 236 & PICKETT RD. FAIRFAX
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Internet Tickets @:
www.cinemaartstheatre.com
SOPHIE SCHOLL (NR)
11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:50, 10:05
MARILYN HOTCHKISS' BALLROOM DANCING & CHARM SCHOOL
(PG-13) 12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
JOYEUX NOEL (PG) (Merry Christmas)
11:50, 2:15, 4:35, 7:20, 9:35
THANKS FOR SMOKING (R)
12:00, 12:30, 2:00, 2:40, 4:30 5:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:30, 9:55
TSOTSI (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:40, 9:45

CONSOLIDATED THEATRES
KINGSTOWNE 16
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center
Alexandria, Va. 703-822-4956
*SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT/NO PASSES
***ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN (PG)**
11:40, 12:20, 1:20, 2:00, 2:50, 3:50 4:30, 5:20, 6:20, 7:00, 7:40, 8:50 9:30, 10:00
***V FOR VENDETTA (R)**
1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10:25
***SLITHER (R)**
12:45, 3:20, 5:45, 7:55, 9:55
***BASIC INSTINCT 2 (R)**
11:55, 2:35, 5:05, 8:05, 10:30
***ATL (PG-13)**
12:30, 2:40, 5:15, 7:25, 9:45
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 6:55, 9:20
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13)
12:10, 2:45, 5:10, 7:45, 10:05
***INSIDE MAN (R)**
1:00, 3:55, 7:20, 10:10
***STAY ALIVE (PG-13)**
12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:20
LARRY THE CABLE GUY (PG-13)
12:50, 3:00, 5:25, 8:00, 10:15
AQUAMARINE (PG)
11:50, 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35
SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13)
11:45, 2:15, 4:50, 7:15, 9:50
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13)
12:55, 4:00, 6:50, 9:25
EIGHT BELOW (PG)
12:25, 3:15, 6:10, 9:05

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Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-3456 #781
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12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:05
SOPHIE SCHOOL: THE FINAL DAYS (NR)
11:00, 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
AWESOME: I F*CKIN' SHOT THAT! (NR)
12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55
THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R)
11:45, 12:15, 2:10, 2:40, 4:45, 5:15, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30, 10:00
TSOTSI (R)
11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
ADAM & STEVE (NR)
12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50
JOYEUX NOEL (PG-13)
2:05, 7:10
THE SYRIAN BRIDE (NR)
11:40, 4:50, 9:40

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Television

A LAUGH A MINUTE: Turner Classic Movies will celebrate April Fools Day this Saturday not by pranking viewers but pleasing them. The cable station will show comedy classics by W.C. Fields, the Marx Brothers, Woody Allen and others.

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

JUSTICE WEARS A FILMY NIGHTIE AND TOUSLED HAIR

Justice arrives from beyond the grave on **GHOST WHISPERER** (Fri., 8 p.m., CBS).

ANOTHER SILICONE EXPLOSION

The new series **L.A. FORENSICS** (Fri., 10:30 p.m., Court TV) offers a weekly glance at one of the nation's busiest crime labs.

BEN FRANKLIN WAS A HORNDOG

Filmed before real students in an NYU classroom, **ASSUME THE POSITION WITH MR. WUHL** (Sat., 10 p.m., HBO) offers a light take on American history while positing that what we believe to be fact is often shaped by popular culture. Amusing, provocative and occasionally profane, Robert Wuhl blows the dust off commonly held historical preconceptions and challenges us to think of historical figures as human beings.

COOL NAME, THOUGH

The made-for-TV shocker **SS DOOMTROOPER** (Sat., 9 p.m., Sci Fi) combines historical action with monstrous camp. Not long after the D-Day invasion, American soldiers stumble upon super-soldier monsters being engineered by Nazi scientists in a last-ditch effort to defeat the Allies. Corin Nemec stars. With the former "Parker Lewis" star on board, you just can't lose.

VH1

TORI! TORI! TORI! Her show doesn't suck as much as you thought it would.

BETTER THAN EXPECTED: THE TORI SPELLING LEGACY

Tori Spelling plays an approximate version of herself in the new reality-infused sitcom **SO NOTORIOUS** (Sun., 10 p.m., VH1). Spelling's self-deprecation is disarming and frequently charming. While this inside-Hollywood trifle trades in many cliches and sitcom conventions, it has a good time doing so. The wardrobe and set design have been inspired by every color found in a bubble-gum dispenser, and the effect is sugar-shock silly.

THE VOTES COME IN

Election Day jitters on **THE WEST WING** (Sun., 8 p.m., NBC).

SEE IT FOR FREE; CLAIM YOU SAW IT IN A THEATER

Overlapping tales of racial animosity and personal pain intersect in the 2005 drama **CRASH** (Sun., 8 p.m., Showtime), which won the Oscar for Best Picture of 2005.

SHUT UP, GEORGE

GREY'S ANATOMY (Sun., 10 p.m., ABC) George has a hard time taking a hint.

SO, 'HUFF' IS NOT 'MONK'?

HUFF (Sun., 10 p.m., Showtime) A therapist (Hank Azaria) loses focus on his patients while trying to keep pace with his family dynamics as the show enters its second season.

CAMPY WITH A C

Showtime dusts off some history, airing a digitally remastered version of the 1972 special **LIZA WITH A Z: A CONCERT FOR TELEVISION** (Sat., 8 p.m., Showtime). Liza Minnelli performs popular ballads as well as numbers from "Cabaret."

SHOWTIME

Liza's legendary televised concert gets brushed up and re-broadcast.

MOMMY, THAT MAN IS SCARY

THE HENRY ROLLINS SHOW (Sat., 10 p.m., IFC) kicks off a second 20-episode season of conversation about film, music and popular culture. Tonight's guest: director Oliver Stone. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

3.31.06		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4	News		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Deal or No Deal (N)		Las Vegas "Cash Springs Eternal" (N)		Conviction "Savasana" (N)		News	Tonight Show
	WTTG 5	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Seinfeld	Bernie Mac	Bernie Mac	Trading Spouses: Meet-Mommy		News		Geraldo at Large	Friends
	WJLA 7	News	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	America's Funniest Home Videos		In Justice "Crossing the Line" (N)		20/20		News	(:35) Nightline
	WUSA 9	News	CBS News	9News Tonight	Ent. Tonight	Ghost Whisperer "Fury" (N)		Close to Home "Land of Opportunity"		NUMB3RS "All's Fair" (iTV) (N)		News	Late Show
	WDCA 20	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	MLB Preseason Baseball Baltimore Orioles at Washington Nationals. From Space Coast Stadium in Viera, Fla. (Live)						The Tyra Banks Show		Girlfriends	Girlfriends
	WMPT 22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	State Circle	Washington Week	NOW (N)	★★ "A Thief of Time" (2004, Mystery) Adam Beach, Wes Studi.				Buddy Deane Scrapbook	
	WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Washington Week	Inside Wash.	NOW	Mystery! A doctor decides to murder his detestable wife.			Charlie Rose (N)	
	WHUT 32	White House	Tavis Smiley	BBC World News	Moneywise	Evening Exch	To the Contrary	History Detectives		BBC World News	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N)	
	WBDC 50	Steve Harvey	The Parkers	My Wife and Kids	Bernie Mac	Survival of the Richest		Reba	Modern Men (N)	Bernie Mac	My Wife and Kids	Sex and the City	Will & Grace
BASIC CABLE	A&E	American Justice: Perfect Murder		American Justice: John Lennon		Biography: John Travolta		Being Mick Jagger (N)		24 "Day 4: 7:00AM-8:00AM"		24 "Day 4: 8:00AM - 9:00AM"	
	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter Diaries		Pet Star		The Planet's Funniest Animals (N)		Amazing Animal Videos		Animal Planet Heroes Phoenix		Pet Star	
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Top 10 countdown. (N)			★★ "Blue Hill Avenue" (2001, Crime Drama) Allen Payne, Angelle Brooks, William Johnson.			The Down Low Exposed				In Living Color	In Living Color
	Bravo	(5:00) ★★ "The Dead Pool" (1988)		Inside the Actors Studio		Heist "Pilot"		Heist "Sex, Lies and Vinny Momo"		★ "Half Baked" (1998) Dave Chappelle, Guillermo Diaz. Premiere.			
	Comedy	(5:00) ★★ "Police Academy" (1984)		Com.-Presents	Reno 911!	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Stand Up Nation With Greg Giraldo (Season Premiere) Todd Barry; Arj Barker.					South Park
	Court	Masterminds	Masterminds	Cops	Cops	The Investigators		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	LA Forensics	Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	
	Discovery	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	The FBI Files Seven escapees.		A Haunting (N)		I Shouldn't Be Alive (N)		Secrets to Survival		The FBI Files Seven escapees.	
	DISCH	Paramedics "Silicon Valley Saviors"		Trauma: Life in the ER		Trauma: Life in the ER "The Frontier"		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Skeleton Stories		Trauma: Life in the ER "The Frontier".	
	Disney	Phil of the Future	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	That's So Raven	"The Sandlot 2" (2005) James Earl Jones, Cole Evan Weiss. Premiere.				Phil of the Future	Even Stevens	Zack & Cody	That's So Raven
	E!	10 Ways	The Simple Life 2	E! News (N)	The Daily 10 (N)	Tori Spelling Hollywood Story		The Simple Life 2	The Simple Life 2	The Soup (N)	The Daily 10	Saturday Night Live	
	FX	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Thief "Pilot"	
	HGTV	Renovation	Wknd Warriors	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	Get Color	Design Remix	Double Take	FreeStyle	House Hunters	House Hunters	Debbie Travis' Facelift	
	Family	7th Heaven "Relationships"		7th Heaven "Broken"		★★ "Little Giants" (1994, Comedy) Rick Moranis, Ed O'Neill, John Madden.				Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club	
	History	Circus Freaks and Sideshows		More Dangerous Cargo		Saddam and the Third Reich The Iraqi-Nazi connection.				Sink the Tirpitz Sinking a German battleship.			Great Blunders
	Lifetime	Golden Palace	Golden Palace	★★ "Sex and a Girl" (2001, Drama) Angela Gots, Robert Hays.				★★ "White Oleander" (2002, Drama) Alison Lohman, Robin Wright Penn, Michelle Pfeiffer.					Will & Grace
	MTV	Parental Control	Room Raiders	ADD Videos	Real World-Rd	Spring Break	Made	Dime Piece	Date My Mom	The Real World	The Real World	Parental Control	Parental Control
	NICK	Ned's School	Danny Phantom	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Fairly Oddparents	Fairly Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius		Full House	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	The Cosby Show
	SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 "Forever in a Day"		John Doe "John D.O.A."		Stargate SG-1 (Part 1 of 2)		Doctor Who "Aliens of London" (N)		Stargate Atlantis "Epiphany"		Stargate SG-1 (Part 1 of 2)	
	SPIKE	World's Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		The Shield "The Spread"		The Shield "Dawg Days"	
	TBS	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Friends	Friends	★★ "Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life" (2003, Action) Angelina Jolie. Premiere.					Lara Croft-Life
	TLC	Martha Orlando Jones and Rob Estes.		10 Years Younger		What Not to Wear "Reunion: Karen"		What Not to Wear "Jennifer C." (N)		What Not to Wear "Michelle B."		What Not to Wear "Reunion: Karen"	
	TNT	Charmed "Sin Francisco"		Law & Order "Hitman" (DVS)		★★ "The Wedding Planner" (2001, Romance-Comedy) Jennifer Lopez.				★★ "Fools Rush In" (1997, Comedy) Matthew Perry, Salma Hayek.			
	USA	Ghost Hunters Tuberculosis hospital.		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Monk "Mr. Monk Goes Home Again"		House "Cursed"	
	VH1	Top 20 Countdown (N)				40 Greatest Pranks				Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Best Week Ever	Web Junk 20 (N)
SPANISH	TELEM	Sala de Parejas	Noti-Telemndo	La Tormenta		Tierra de Pasiones		Corazón Partido	Decisiones	Decisiones		Noti-Telemndo	Titulares y Mas
	UNIV	Que Locura	Noticiero Univ	Peregrina		Selena -Vivel						Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.
SPORTS	ESPN	SportsCenter (Live)			NBA Shootaround	NBA Basketball Memphis Grizzlies at New Orleans Hornets. (S Live)					NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Seattle Sonics.		
	ESPN2	LPGA Golf: Nabisco Champ.		Tennis NASDAQ-100 Open -- Semifinal. From Key Biscayne, Fla. (Live)				Boxing Friday Night Fights. Montell Griffin takes on Norman Jones.				SportsCenter (Live)	
	CSN	Baseball Report	SportsNite	Reunion with Roy Firestone		Halls of Fame	NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Houston Rockets. From Toyota Center in Houston. (Live)					SportsNite	Best-Sports
NEWS	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360			
	FNC	Special Report (Live)		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live)		Hannity & Colmes (Live)		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	The Abrams Report		Hardball		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		MSNBC Investigates		Lockup: Inside Folsom		MSNBC: Lockup: Inside Stateville	
MOVIES	AMC	(5:45) ★ "Instinct" (1999, Drama) Anthony Hopkins. 'R'				★★ "The In-Laws" (2003, Comedy) Michael Douglas. 'PG-13'				★★ "House" (1986, Horror) William Katt, George Wendt. Premiere. 'R'.			
	TCM	(5:30) ★★★ "Oklahoma" (1955, Musical) Gordon MacRae. 'G'				★★★ "Fear Strikes Out" (1957, Biography) Anthony Perkins. Premiere. 'NR'				★★★★ "The Pride of the Yankees" (1942) Gary Cooper. 'NR'			
	HBO	(:15) ★ "White Noise" (2005, Suspense) Michael Keaton. 'PG-13'				★★★ "Deep Cover" (1992, Crime Drama) Larry Fishburne. 'R'				The Sopranos "Mayham"		Real Time Seth Green; Erica Jong.	
	MAX	(5:45) ★★ "Man on Fire" (2004) Denzel Washington. 'R'				(:15) ★ "Son of the Mask" (2005, Comedy) Jamie Kennedy. 'PG'				★★ "Starsky & Hutch" (2004) Ben Stiller. 'PG-13'			Hotel Erotica
	SHOW	★ "The Cookout" (2004) Ja Rule. iTV. 'PG-13'			★★ "Walking Tall" (2004) The Rock. 'PG-13'			Weeds (iTV)	Weeds (iTV)	Penn & Teller	Penn & Teller	Boxing: Boone vs. Thompson.	
	TMC	National Lamp.	(:25) ★★ "The Big Empty" (2003) Jon Favreau. 'R'			★★ "The Punisher" (2004, Action) Thomas Jane, John Travolta. 'R'				(:05) ★ "The Unborn" (1991) Brooke Adams. 'R'			Pulp Fiction (1994)
	STARZ!	(5:15) ★★ "Beautiful Girls" (1996)		(:15) ★★ "Christmas With the Kranks" (2004) Tim Allen. 'PG'				★ "Armageddon" (1998) Bruce Willis. A hero tries to save Earth from an asteroid. 'PG-13'					(:35) Hostage 'R'.
	ENCORE	(5:45) ★ "Up Close & Personal" (1996) Robert Redford. 'PG-13'				★★ "King Arthur" (2004, Historical Drama) Clive Owen. 'PG-13'				(:15) ★★★ "Cliffhanger" (1993, Adventure) Sylvester Stallone. 'R'			

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Join the Justice Federal Credit Union as **Regional Financial Services Support** based in DC. Support branches by assuming the duties of several positions. These positions may include **Receptionist, Teller, Head Teller, Financial Services Representative or Financial Services Officer.**

The majority of your work will be in the DC area and Quantico, with occasional service to NY, CA, or WV.

If you have experience in banking (3-5 years) and a desire to work in a dynamic position, please contact us with your resume or visit our website at www.jfcu.org for more information.

JFCU requires good credit and ability to pass a security clearance. Competitive salaries and great benefits including health/dental insurance, 401 (k), and MetroChek. Email resume to hr@jfcu.org or fax it to 703.814.8907. Email preferred. EOE.

BEAUTY—Nail Tech, Stylist. Experienced, Salary & Commission. Near Metro. 202-783-6565

CABINET MAKERS Aprentice
For millwork Co Rockille. 1 yr exp req'd.
301-231-2500

Construction

JOB FAIR INVITATION!!
Skilled Tradespeople; Carpenters, Electricians, Drywall Mechanics & Painters
Date: **APRIL 1ST, 2006**
Location: **6810-A Bland St., Springfield, VA 22150**
Time: **9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM**
*** First 10 applicants will receive a door prize!!! ***

Counselors/Teachers

CAREER FAIR

Looking For A Summer Job? MD, DC, VA
Spend your summer at the YMCA!
Available positions:
JR. & SR. COUNSELORS
CAMP DIRECTORS
TEACHERS
PHYSICAL ED. MAJORS
ECE MAJORS
Saturday, April 15, 2006 9:30am-3:00
YMCA National Capital
1711 Rhode Island Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20011
Submit resumes to: nharrison@ymcadc.org

CUSTOMER SERVICE/CLERK
Environmentally safe drycleaners. Need Friendly, dependable, F/T or P/T. Co benes. Alex area. 703-998-6464

CUSTOMER SERVICE—FT/PT, for busy natural health care center. Mon-Sat, some positions until 7pm. Great benefits, great teamwork, hourly pay. Must apply in person: 4609-D Pinecrest Office Park Dr., Alexandria, VA 22312. 703-354-7336. Several positions available - act now!

DANCERS— Wanted for Gentleman's Club (PG County). $300-$500/night. No exp. needed. **240-286-3660 or 301-568-8500**

Dental Assistant—needed imm. Must be MD licenced. Call 301-568-8898 or fax 301-568-8987

DRIVER
Alexandria Plumbing & Heating wholesaler. CDL Lic a plus, Not Req'd. F/T w/ benefits. Fax resume to: 703-836-6190

DRIVER — Bring your own car, pickup truck or van. Mid-Atlantic deliveries 24/7. Paid weekly. Call 301-495-0000.

DRIVER—Est. NOVA Co. seeking qualified Class A CDL driver for dedicated NE linehauls. Must have good driving record & pass drug screening. Please fax resume to 571-434-6336 or call 703-631-6688

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DRIVERS— Mult-contractors w/ own vehicles PT/FT. ASAP apply within 810 L St, SE.

DRIVERS— TRUCK, exp. dump truck drivers NEEDED. CDL Req'd. Benefits. 2yrs exp req'd.
FAIRFAX TRUCKING INC. 703-323-1155

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PT eves & wknds. VA/DC/MD. $18-$20/hr. Springfield **703-550-7200**

DRY CLEANING
SORTER/BAGGER
F/T or P/T, Dependable, Co. benefits. Alex area.
Call 703-998-6464

ELECTRICIANS & HELPERS
Must be experienced in custom homes & remodeling, & have tools and vehicle. 401K. 703-787-9925

Front Desk/Receptionist

Level A Unique Fitness Club in Potomac, MD(near Bethesda, MD) is seeking FT/PT energetic person to join our team. Must be dependable, friendly, organized and posses some computer skills. Must have a vehicle. Please call Wilma at (301)-229-0080, fax 301-229-0085 or email: Wilma@levelfitness.com

Advance you.
"Careers" can move you up and ahead. **Mondays.**
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"Cars" can put you in the right wheels. **Wednesdays.**
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DCRA is recruiting in the areas of:

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Experienced candidates please send resumes to dcrahr@dc.gov . To view a complete position description please visit www.dcra.dc.gov

Only qualified candidates will be contacted

General Jobs
Travel agents needed.
Work from home. No exp nec. Call 301-352-7330.

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F/T w/benefits including health, dental, paid leave and retirement. Starts at $12.05 - $12.66 hr. with experience. Requires some knowledge of landscape maintenance and ability to use power hand tools. Must be able to lift and move heavy objects and bend, kneel and stoop for extended periods. Valid driver's license required and ability to get CDL within 90 days of hire. Open until filled. Applications available from:

City of College Park - Human Resources
4500 Knox Road, College Park, MD 20740
Call: (301) 779-4945
www.ci.college-park.md.us

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MD lic & exper'd for upscale retirement comm in Kensington (Nr Silver Spring). 1 day, Wed or Fri. 1-800-642-1210

Healthcare

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THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY

Are you looking for:
- **A rewarding career that impacts lives?**
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- **Opportunity for advancement?**
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You'll find this, and much more, as a Healthcare Reimbursement Representative with Covance.

Covance Market Access Services Inc. is a recognized leader in the healthcare industry; championing patients and helping them access essential drugs. Our Gaithersburg, MD office is seeking candidates who are looking for a unique opportunity to learn about the business side of the healthcare industry. Position involves troubleshooting requests from healthcare providers and patients, researching coverage benefits for patients, and screening patients for free drug programs or alternative sources of coverage. Position requires strong communication skills, work ethic, excellence in customer service and teamwork, enthusiasm for working w/healthcare providers, patients, and insurance representative. High school diploma/GED required; candidates with undergraduate degrees are preferred. We offer flexible schedules, competitive compensation & benefits in a business casual environment.

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Please apply online at www.covance.com/careers for the Program Specialist position

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Hospitality Temps has imm-diate work for exp:
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- **House Persons**
- **Janitorial Staff (5p.m. to 10 p.m. shift)**

Apply in person Tue thru Sat, 9a.m. to 2p.m. With police Clearance, 2ID's, B/W, and ref-erence to 600 PA Ave., SE, Rm 105 WDC

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All shifts. Must be able to work weekends. Exper. a plus. Crystal City location 1½ blocks from Metro. Apply in person at Americana Hotel, 1400 Jefferson Davis Hwy., or call 703-979-3772.

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FT, entry-level recruiter needed, great opportunity to break into the HR field.
Ref, Rec1wp on app.
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(703) 435-8916 fax, please give wage req.
hr@securityprograms.com
VA Lic# 11-2050 EOE

LABORERS/WAREHOUSE/MAILROOM
38 immed openings for Laborers/Warehouse/Mailroom on day and night shifts. Positions located in DC Metro area. Apply in person Mon - Wed., 10am sharp, at Crosby Corporation, 835 Bonifant St., Silver Spring, MD.

LANDSCAPER—Wanted F/T, Year round. Clean driving record, No felonies, Must have own Transportation, & US Citizen. Call between 9a-4p, 301-570-3070 for interview.

LOCKSMITH
FedLock seeks ENTRY (will train) & EXPERIENCED TECHS. Installation/service, access control, hardware, no auto, no on-call. Great opportunity for personal/professional growth, excellent salary/benefits. Company offers extensive & continuous training. **Fax 703-525-1637, Michael.**

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Experience a plus but not required. Will train. Contact Mrs. Johnson 301-577-3600 ext 240.

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Opportunity to six figures. Inhouse/Online training. Call for Appt, 301-839-9400

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FT/LO NoVA
Must Drive. 703-430-7423

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Hiring for Asst. Managers, Production Operators, Senior Project Coordinators, Inside Sales & Retail Consultants. FT or PT avail. If unable to attend, please apply online, stop in any center weekdays or email to mgr1833@FedExkinkos.com.
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Maa-resume@heart.org
or fax 804-965-6403.

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RESTAURANT
Cook, Exper for small nghbrhd restaurant. Apply in person only 10a-12p, M-F. Zoo Bar Cafe, 3000 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington DC.

Restaurant

Denny's Restaurant located at 4445 Benning Rd., NE, Wash, DC is hiring Servers/Cashiers w/immediate experience. Apply on site.

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Become a **Manager in Training** & learn how to run your own business. Domino's Managers earn an average of $65,000 per year.
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No prior apartment leasing experience required • Motivated & persistent • Great phone & service skills • E-mail & Internet efficient

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TO APPLY, call Toll-Free: 1-888-398-1349
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Classifieds

JOBS

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FULL TIME SERVERS

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- BARTENDERS

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Needed immed. for the grand opening of 1 of the nations best 'hot 100 pizza chains'. Good pay $$ upto $15
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JC Ehrlich is an Equal Opportunity Employer
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SALES

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Prosperous NoVA/MD Company in the home improvement industry is expanding. Prior industry experience not necessary but welcome. Professional training program provided. Someone who needs at least $65,000 per year with the potential of six figures. Commission, Incentive and bonus. Car Required. No overnight travel. Call Brian Quick between 9am and 3pm @ 301-560-6920

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Thursday, April 6th
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CLINTON—Lg 4BR 3BA SFH. 1 car gar. above ground pool. $2200/mo + sec dep. Avl May 1. 301-877-6067

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COLLEGE PARK — Lovely detached SFH for rent. By owner, 3BR, 1BA, LR, Kitc, wood flrs, frt/back yard. $1650/mo. Call 301-828-0898 or 301-345-6211

COLLEGE PARK—Spac bright effen. w/balc in desirable Westchester Park. $825 incl util 571-272-6399

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Includes all utilities
1620 Fuller St/Adams Morgan
Effcs. fr. $925 inc. HHW
CAP HILL AREA: 220 2nd St SE
A/C 2BR fr $1525 incl. HHW.
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Denied an apt due to credit?
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www.eliasconsultinggroup.com

DISTRICT HTS—Lovely 3 lvl 3BR, 2 full, 2 half BA TH w/fireplace. $1650/mo. **202-373-9173**

DONT LET CREDIT STOP YOU FROM RENTING—Call 240-350-4944

DUPONT—1BR in highrise at 18th & Q. $1900/mo incl utils. Pets ok. Call for EZ appt to see.
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202-285-2400

DUPONT CIRCLE

1BR apt avail 4/1, walk to Metro, incl LR & El kit, $1650 301-908-7440

FAIRFAX $1350/mo
5 Room Condo.
PMA Inc, Call Oscar, 703-622-4340.

FAIRFAX—1BR w/priv ent, patio. $900 ut incl +dep 703-352-2201

FAIRLAKES—3 Lvl condo TH, 2BR 2FBA, 1 car gar., at Fairlake Gate. Fr. May 1. $1,675. Call 703-582-8887

FALLS CH —Ramb., 3BR/2BA, Fla Rm, Fin'd Bsmnt, Gar, No pets, Quick walk to Metro. $2100. 703-237-8706

FALLS CHURCH—Shr SFH, 2BRs utils., high speed internet, cable, phone incl. $560 & $650. 703-941-4080

FORESTVL—1BR condo, gd cond, utl. incl., $695/mo. Credit chk. 703-406-3300.

FORT WASH—Grt nghbrd 3BR 2½BA SFH w/updated kit, fnsd bsmt & laundry rm, hdwd flrs/new crpt, ceiling fans, C/A, landscaped yard, encl. patio. $1850 240-605-7421

Fort Washington—SFH - 5 BR, 2 FBA/2HBA, 2gar, all new flr, lrg yrd, deck, fpl. $2200. 240-846-1065.

FREDERICKSBURG

5BR, 3½BA, $1950/mo. Section 8 ok.
Mike 703-823-5465

FT. WASH— Furn Rms in Hse to Shr. Shr LR/DR/Kit, W/D, $125-$200/wk, Utls incl + Cable. 703-856-6075

GAITH—1BR, newly renov. wash/dry, dw, next to 355 & 270. $1100. 202-431-2494

GAITH—BRAND NEW TH, garage, 3BR 2½BA, easy access to Shady Grove Metro, Marc train, LakeForest Mall. $1750. 240-683-0067

GAITHS/ROCKVILLE—1 & 2 Lg BRs. Wonderful 1BR Specials start at $900; wlk in closets,eat in kit, balcs. Nr park, grocery, restau,shops. Also furn w/linens, dishes & microw. 2BR start at $1100. **301-948-0087.**

GEO'TWN/28TH ST NR M/TH—1BR+2 extra rms, 1½BA, fpl, w/d, grdn, sec.sys., on 3 lvls, $2500+utls. 202-391-5923.

Georgetown/N. Cathedral—Fully furn studio w/ balc. All utils, high-speed, maid service. $1650. (6 month minimum) Parking avail. 443-392-4986

GLEN BURNIE—Spacious 2 BR/2FBA condo. w/Frpl nr shppg & accessible to Rte 695, 295, 95. Spacious deck, lots closet/storage space. $1395/mo.+Sec Dep 301-613-2838

GREENBELT—Spacious 3BR 2FBA condo in a quiet ngbrd nr bus metro, market & beltway. Sec 8 OK Neg 202-359-4807 301-257-8650

HERNDON—New lux TH 3BR, 2.5BA w/ 1 car gar, fpl, balc, wlk to shop. Mins to 267. $1750. 240-888-4913

HERNDON—New TH. 3BR, 2.5BA. Close to Toll Rd. 1 Car gar. $1750/mo. Call 703 772-0923

HERNDON—Worldgate. 1st flr. 2-BR 2-BA condo, indoor prkg, pool, avail. immed. 703-622-0555

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LARGO/UPPER MARLB—Beaut 3.5BR FBA/2HBA. End TH. Wk-O Bsmt & Garage. $2200. 301-366-8929

LARGO/UPPER MARLBORO—Brand new 2BR 2½BA condo TH w/1-car garage. Available Saturday, April 1st. $1700/mo. **301-440-7580**

LOTHIAN—3-BR 2-BA, W/D, scrnd porch, avail. 4/1. $1500/mo. 410-867-7503 or 443-618-1856

MCLEAN —Attractive new 1BR apt, private entr, full kitchen & bath, $1200 incl utils. 703-734-2999

MCLEAN—Cottage, over 2 ac., utils incl., W/D, 2-BR $950, 3-BR $1250. Call 703-757-5954

MCLEAN—Gorgeous 1BR 1BA, pool
$1900 incl uts
Ultima Properties 703-862-4140

MCLEAN/TYSONS—4000 sq ft. 3lvl 4BR end-unit TH w/open floorplan. 1-car gar. W-O bsmt. 2 gas fplcs. Excellent location! Bus to Metro & Walk to Tysons Corner/Shopping Ctr. $2,850/mo. **703-898-9371**

McLean, VA—2- Lvl THM, BR:2, FB:2.5, Utl:1, newly renovated. Util inclusive! 908-392-4275.

MITCHV— Lux 3 lvl TH w/extension, 3BR, 2F 2H BAs, gar., deck, sunrm $1900. Avail now. 301-613-4475

MONTGOMERY CO.
Rockville 3 BR 1 BA SFH $1650/MO Rent to own available!
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NE/1901 2nd St—Nice, Non Smkng 1 BR. Nr Metro. $775. 202-832-9826

NE—2004 Rosedale. 4BR apts. Ready to move in, new appls, w-w carp, nr Stadium, Sect 8 welc $2000.Call Marlon: 202-321-8535.

NE—2BR house section deposit Section 8 welcome Call 202-635-1507

NE/917 19th St—1BR/LR. Nr Hechinger Mall. $610/mo. 202-547-7895.

NE—Ideal TH in redeveloped community, 2BR, 2½BA, CAC/heat. New carpet & paint. Excl applc. Nr Catholic Univ. $1800/mo. 301-879-7616

NE—Newly renov. 5BR 2BA $2500/mo Sec. 8 welcome call 202-437-7565 301-324-5544

NE — Recently renov 2BR apt. Conv loc to Metro/Shpg, Sec 8 welc. Call 703-963-3291 or 240-423-3155.

NE/SE— 1BR, 1BR w/Den & 2BR. $675 & up + elec. No pets. Call 202-265-4814 or 202-889-4083.
Fred A. Smith Co.

NE/Trinidad— 1 & 2 BR apts. CAC/heat. Carpet, ceiling fan, nr metro. Starting at $1000 + sec dep. Section 8 Ok. 301-928-2390

NO. BETHESDA—Luxury 2BR, 2BA condo, less than 200 yds from your front door to Metro. Total renov. w/open flr plan w/new kit & baths, $2175 incl indoor parking & all utils. Avail 4/1. 301-452-8584.

N.W. 308 Upshur St. — room in SFH, 202-213-7029

NW—Lovely Effcy, 1 & 2BR apts homes nestled in an estab. community. w/w. laundry fac. controlled entrance. Call 202-722-6038

NW/PETWORTH—1BR/den. $875 + utils. Security dep. No pets. N-smkg.5402 3rd St. 202-996-5088

NW/PETWORTH—½ Hse, 2 flrs, 4BRs, 1BA, $2000/mo+elec. 202-288-2515

OAKTON— 2BR 2BA 2 lvl apt. W/D. deck. carpet. gas. no pets. ample parking. $1220. Call 703-335-9741

ODENTON—Brand New 3BR 2½BA TH w/hdwd flrs. Jacuzzi tub. brick front. close to amenities. Immed occupancy. $1800. 301-221-4628

ODENTON—New TH, 3BR, 2½BA, pool, parking, tennis, Basketball, jogging/walk path, bike trail, recrm, exerc rm, $1800/nego. 240-876-9479.

ODENTON/Piney Orchard— Beaut open 2nd flr 2BR, 2BA, Condo, great amens w/d $1350. 410-695-0475

ODENTON/SEVEN OAKS— Special Unit 3-BR 2½-BA, fin bsmt., h/w flrs, granite counters, S/S appliances. $1595/mo. 301-809-1540

OXON HILL—3BR TH w/1.5BA & skylights, Lg eat in Kit/Din area, $1350.
JP REALTY 301-423-8585

OXON HILL—4BR, 2BA, $1850. Sect 8 welcome. 301-928-7759

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OXON HILL—Sparkling 5-BR 2-BA, inlaw suite, CAC, sunrm, $1985. See www.merrimartproperties.com 240-882-7666

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RESTON—2lvl Penthouse condo across from Reston Town Ctr. 2 Master BRs, 2½BAs, large office + sunroom, gas fireplace & heat. $1990/mo. **703-582-5877**

RESTON—Non smkg to share 3BR, 1½BA TH, $600/mo. + secur depos. Call John 703-860-8106.

RIVERDALE—1BR Specials, w/w crpt, balcony, laundry, d/w, hdwd flrs, close to Metro. From $850+electric. 6747 RIVERDALE ROAD
DELWIN REALTY 301-577-7917

ROCKV—3BR + den 2BA, fp, carport,w/d, covered patio, excel cond,
nr Metro. $1800. 301-674-3050

ROCKVILLE/The Gallery Apts — 2BR apt, 2 prkg spaces, 1 blk Twinbrook Metro, $2200/mo. 301-424-5125.

SE/1824 Minn Ave—2BR, 1½BA, w/w carpet, basement, Ready 2 Move N, Sec 8 ok. 202-345-2066

SE/2824 Buena Vista Terr—Newly renov. 4-unit bldg, 5-BR 2-BA, W/D, CAC, everything is new! Section 8 OK. 202-437-7565

SE—3BR, fully crptd, ready now, sec 8 OK. $1500+elec. 202-528-3426

SE/4002 E St. S.E. —3BR condo, $1400/mo. Section 8 welcome. Details call Ivan 202-399-9000.
IVAN BROWN REALTY, INC

SE/4915 AYERS PLACE—1BR APT. $675/MO. Call 240-601-3892.

SE/4915 AYERS PLACE—1BR APT. $675/MO. Call 240-601-3892.

SE—Newly renovated TH. 3 BR, 1½ BA, fully fin bsmt. Lge fncd in backyard. Across from shppg Mall. Nr Branch Ave Metro sta. $1900. Call Mike, 240-475-9017

SE/Off Alabama Ave/Nr Metro—Renovated Aapts. 2BR, 3BR & 4BR. cac. w/w carpet. new windows. new cabinets. upgraded applicances. Section 8 OK. Call 202-330-7240

SIL SPG—2BR/2BA condo. Glenmont Metro. Red Line. $1575, all utils incl. Avail now. 301-996-3967

SIL SPG 610 Bennington Dr. $2300
4BR, 2½BA, updated kit & baths, LR, frpl, FR, gar, lge deck. 1 blk fr Sligo Creek Pk. Call **Aaron Hargrove** for more details. **202-438-0701 Realty Execs 2000**

SIL SPG 906 Buckingham Dr. $2300
5BR, 3BA, updated kit, gar Fresh paint thro'out, immed occup. Call **Aaron Hargrove** for more details. **202-438-0701 Realty Execs 2000.**

SIL SPG/Hillandale-Lg ramb on 1ac wded lot w/ pool, acr. fr. new FDA Res. Ctr. pvt. entr., OSP, 1BR, sh LR/kit & laund. facil. Canine pet ok. $850/incl. utl. Direct TV & wireless DSL. 301-439-0800.

SIL SPG/WHITE OAK—2-BR 1½-BA condo$1300/mo. 301-879-4638

SILVER SPRING/TAKOMA PARK

Centrally located quiet 1BR, access to Public Trans. avail 4/1. $735 301-625-9415

SILVER SPRING—3BR 2F/2HBA 3lvl TH w/2-car gar. 1 blk to FG Metro & 2 to Beltway. Never rented! Hdwds, fplc, custom window treatments, freshly painted. $2650. Small pet ok w/dep. **301-589-3442**

SILVER SPRING—2bsmt apt, all prvt, own entr., Liv rm, BR, FBA, shr only kit. $850 utils incld 301-593-0435

SILVER SPRING—2BR 1BA SFH w/Den. Amenities incl CAC, fenced yard, deck & hardwood floors! Pets OK. Available April 1st. $1600/mo. **202-351-8259**

SPRINGFIELD—3BR, 1.5BA, W/D, gar w/storage, cul-de-sac, $2,200/mo, 703-989-1361

SPRINGFIELD—4BR, 3FBA, 1HBA, 2 full kitchen TH w/lge backyard. Nr Metro & Springfield Mall. $2000. Call **571-332-1385.**

SPRINGFIELD/Kingstowne—Sublet 2BR, 2BA, sunrm, patio. Many amenities, shppg/restau nearby. $1606. $50 appl fee. 703-922-2843

SPRINGFIELD W—Lge rm, sep entr & bath, fp, NS/No Pets avail immed $600. **703-913-0339; 571-215-0370**

SUITLAND—New cond., 4-BR 3-BA, inlaw suite, sunrm, CAC. See WWW.Merrimartproperties.com Special $2050. 240-882-7666

S.W.—Brand new luxury TH w/1-car gar, luxury appointed amenities, close to Bolling AFB & Naval Research Lab. Please call Cynthia at 301-871-2084

SW—Lovely 2BR, 2BA apt, cls to Metro/dwn town DC,museums,Capitol. Balc, pool, sec entry, hrwd flrs, prk avail. $1600/mo. utils inc. N/P 202-882-0879

TEMPLE HILLS—1BR Apts avail immed! W2W, d/w, W/D, fireplace optional. Call 301-894-8524

TEMPLE HILLS—2BR, 1BA top flr condo, secure bldg next to Metro. Gas, elec. incl. $950/mo. Credit chk. 703-406-3300.

TEMPLE HILLS—Nice, spacious 3BR, 2BA condo. 2 blks from Naylor Rd Metro. Sec 8 welcome. $1450. Must See. 202-636-3687

TEMPLE HILLS—New cond., 4-BR 3-BA, 2 FP, inlaw suite, CAC, 2-lvl deck, Special $2100/mo. See WWW.Merrimartproperties.com 240-882-7666

TEMPLE HILLS—Rent to own, renov. 5BR, 3BA SFH, excel cond, $1650+uts. Sect 8 ok 301-464-3594

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Enjoy the Luxury of the Renaissance
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AVAILABLE APRIL 1ST
2 story CONDO, 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA, W/D, FP, Parking, Cls to Metro, Schools & Stores. No Pets. Pls. call 301-908-0111 for appt.

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Bethany Beach/Sea Colony— Amazing 3 BR spectacular ocean. Million Dollar View! Slps 8-12. $2000-$2500. Avail 7/1, 7/15, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19, 8/26. Debbie 240-388-6757

ROOMMATES

ADELPHI—Share house, lge furn, $550 incl utils. Nr 495 & I-95 2 mi UMD, fireplace, waterbed, cable anytime, hi spd internet access, laundry room, pool, maid service on Friday. 301-431-1510 grobson196@comcast.net

ARL/BALLSTON—Prof. M/F to shr n/s SFH. MBR w/FBA. $875 incl utils utl/mo. 703-582-5598

ARL—House to shr. Wlk Ballston Metro. Immed. Room $595/$675/$695 pvt. BA. 703-599-7572

ARL N — Hse to shr Nr Clarendon Metro. 5BR/4BA. Lge kit, D/W, W/D, high speed internet, close to all transp. Avail 3/26. $595. Call for Appt 703-740-7530

ARL, N—Shr. 4BR, 2.5 ba house nr Ballston Metro. $500 + $250 deposit. Avail only April, May & JuneCall Dee: 260-341-6028 .

ARL—SFH to shr., close to Ballston Metro, own room, F preferred.
Call 703-409-9600

ARLINGTON/SHIRLINGTON—1 furnished room available April 1st in apt to share. $585/mo includes utilities. Bus to Pentagon Metro. **703-338-4073**

ASHBURN—MBR w/pvt BA. No pets. Share kit & common areas. $600+ utils.
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ROOMMATES

ASHBURN — Share house. Room w/pvt BA, w-i closet, Prof. F only, No/Smkg, no pets, $650 incl utls. Call 703-728-4079.

BELTSVILLE—Share Condo. 1 Room avail for rent w/ shr BA. $490 mo utils incl. N/S 301-931-3117

BOWIE $500 Room for Rent
NS/No Pets 301-996-6077

BURKE —TH to share NS, uts incl, 12x12 furn Bedrm, w/d, nr Metro. $545/mo depos req. 703-598-8723. jackyjacks41624@yahoo.com

CAP HGTS/Forestville—Rms for Rent. Cable, $160/wk. 202-330-7265

CENTREVILLE—M/F prof to shr TH, $600+ incl 2BR 1FB, quiet loc. Great deal. no pets. Bill 571-331-5134

COLLEGE PK—Furnished newly renov. SFH to share. 3 mins. from U of MD. MBR w/BA $600. 3 other BR's $475. Full kitchen, liv. rm., din. rm., 3-BA. 301-537-9887, 301-938-8975

DIST HTS— Pvt furnished rooms for rent in quiet home. Nr bus, metro & shppg. 301-568-3386

FAIRFAX/Annandale—Rm for rent, share bath, $480/mo No Smkg, No Pets. Also 1BRw/pvt bath $580 571-221-0900

FAIRFAX CITY—M/F to share nice 2 BR condo. Good parking. Near Bus & GMU. Quiet. $570 includes utils. Must like Pets, and more welcome! **703-273-2815**

FAIRFAX/FAIR OAKS—NS, No pets, to sh lux. TH, MBR w/deck + lg. ba. $800 utils. incl. 703-966-9925

FAIRFAX/GEO MASON UNIV—TH to shr. Furn., rec. rm., BA, kitchenette, off st. pkg., nonsmkg, CAC, W/D $750+ incl utils 703-922-6953

FAIRFAX— Newly Remod, By Metro, 1BR, Share Ba & Kit, N/S, N/P, Fem Only, $380 + Utls. 571-235-1360

FALLS CHURCH—M/F to shr 2LG BRs in SFH. 1 furn-$550. 1BR-$500. ESU. Dep Req. W/D, CAC, yrd, cls to Metro. Smkrs allowed. 703-532-7388

FALLS CHURCH/TYSONS— Female share 3BR condo, walk to shops, parking, short term ok, $550 pays all. 703-599-7931.

FT WASHINGTON—Lg rm for F, wall to wall carpt, laundry, A/C, $575/mo, utils incld + free cable. 301-839-4389 or 240-381-7650.

GAITHERSBURG—2 furn rms to rent, shr kit/BA, priv ent, sec dep req. 240-447-6023

GAITHERSBURG— Shr TH. 1 BR shr Bath. Nr shppg ctr/bus. $500 incl utils. Avl 4/1. 240-505-5516

GERMANTOWN—Shr TH. Rooms for rent, $450 & $500. Bsmt $600. Utils incl. Free catv. Nr shpg/ Metro. Call Frank 240-393-1019

GERMANTOWN— Shr TH. 1 room avail., $550 incl utils. Near Ride-On bus. Call 240-372-2697

GERMANTOWN— Shr hse. bsmt rm for rent. $600 + ½ elec. Pvt Ba. Cats on premises. 240-620-9449

GREAT FALLS/Langley Schools—5BR, 3½BA SFH, updtd kit & bath, fncd yd, scrnd porch, $2500. 1 yr min lease, avail 5/1. 703-450-2958

HYATTSV—House to shr., nonsmkr, Neat F preferred. $500/mo incl utils. Call 301-408-8753

LANHAM— RM IN HSE, sh kit/ba, $120 & $135/wk Nr. Metro. N/smk. N/Pet. Call 240-645-2380

LEESBURG— Shr TH. Pvt BR & BA. N/S. $550/MO + utils. Avail mo to mo lease. 703-861-3178

MANASSAS—2 Prof. ladies seek same to shr nice TH. Very conv. N-smkg. no pets. $565 incl utils. Avail 5/8. 703-582-5071

Manassas- Shr 3MBR TH. Cls to shp & hosp, 66/28. N/S, N/P, $650+util 703-863-9023

NE— Hse to shr. Nr Metro. $700+ ½ utils. Avail April 1. Move-in fee required. 202-547-2415

OLNEY—Rent 2-BR's of TH, pvt BA, shr LR, DR, & kit. Nr bus stop, cinema, & shops. No smkg/no pets. $1150 for 2 BR's incl utils. Or just rent single BR's. 240-485-6257 Al

Rockville—Hse to shr, Lg modern split lvl, 1Blk to Twinbrook Metro, w/d, cac, no pets 703-582-1580

SIL SPG —Share house, 2BRs avail in bsmt w/full bath, LR & $750; & 1 rm upstairs w/full bath $400. Bus at door. 301-847-0908

SPRINGFIELD—2 rms for rent. 1BR/shr BA-$500. MBR/priv BA-$700. Utils inc.3 mi/Metro. 703-989-5628

SPRINGFIELD—4BR, 3½BA, 2 full kitchen Town-House w/large backyard to share. Near Metro & Springfield Mall. $450-800. **571-332-1385**

SPRINGFIELD—F to share End Unit TH. Prvt BA, Nice nghbrhd, Conv to Metro. $575 incl utls. 703-569-7854

SPRINGFIELD, VA—Share house. Room available w/private entrance near Springfield Plaza. $550/mo includes utilities. Call 703-867-7259 for more info!

SPRINGFIELD WEST— SFH to shr in Cardinal Forest. Nr Rolling Rd & Old Keene Mill Rd. Good nghbrhd. EZ-going. Friendly atmosphere, rent negotiable. Call Doug 703-644-6725

STERLING—M/F to shr 2BR/2BA apt., 1 room avail., nr Broad Run Bus Stop, Insect of 28 & Hwy 7. $665+¼ utils. 703-444-3936

UPPER MARLBORO—2RMs in hse to shr. $500 + utils. Nr Largo Metro & PG Comm Coll. **301-793-6694**

VIENNA/OAKTON—Shr 3-BR TH. M/F, NS/N pets. $690+dep+⅓ utils. 703-582-7295

WHEATON—Georgia & Randolph Rd. Nr Metro, Prof M/F shr clean & quiet SFH. 1 BR, pvt entr, Pvt Ba. Furn/unfurn. Internet/cable, N/S, No pets. $650 utils incl'd. 301-962-9595

WHITE PLAINS—4-BR, 3-BA hse. 2800 s.f., large: kit., DR, LR, & fam. rm. CAC, 2-way frpl., W/D, 600 s.f. deck/patio. Bsmt. workshop. On 1 ac. 20 mins. frm AAFB. $2000/mo. + utils. CATV & trash-PU incl. 410-867-2768

CONDOS FOR SALE

ALEX - $175,000 — INCREDIBLE VIEWS OF DC. Renov. Effcy at Park Pl. w/fresh paint. new carpet. lg wlk-in closet, new kitc. applncs & balc. **Call Melissa, 703-624-1204. CENTURY 21 New Millennium**

ALEX $229,900
Old Town. Walk to Metro, 2 blocks to Potomac. Renov. unit w/ balc. Call Today! 703-370-8670. **Taylor Brown Realty**

ALEX/Palazzo— 1BR, 1BA w/prkg. $315,900. King St & 395. 4561 Strutfield Lane, #3313. Open House: Sat April 1 & Sun April 2, 9-5pm. 954-249-9720.

ALEX $268,000
2BR Condo in lux bldg, gar, balc, W/D, huge closets. Seller pays $4,000 to your closing costs. Call Today! 703-370-8670. **Taylor Brown Realty**

ALEX/Watergate @ Landmark— 1BR/1BA— remod, all marble BA, new kit-$289,900. **1BR/Den,-2BA**—1100 sf-$329,900. **2BR/2BA**—Hi flrs, upgrd kit, $364,900. Pools, Metro shuttle 571-277-1831

Alexandria/Kingstowne $358,900
2 Bdrm, 2 Bath Condo with GARAGE and loft. WOW! So close to Van Dorn Metro, Ft Belvoir, DC and shopping. Built in 1991. Cathedral ceilings, fplc, over 1,200 sq. ft., New carpet and paint. Pool and tennis ct iin condo fees. 7013C Birkenhead Pl. Alexandria, VA 22315. From Duke St., South on Van Dorn, Rt on Kingstowne Blvd, L on Manchester Lakes, Rt on Irwell, L on Birkenhead. Condo on Rt. Call Jane Jensen, 571-228-5656. WEICHERT, Realtors
Visit: **http://www.realvirginiahomes.com**

ALEXANDRIA OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 $275,000
Large 2BR, 1BA Condo. New carpet, garage parking, 10 minutes from Pentagon.
4600 Duke St. (22304) Call 703-548-4214

ARL-$399,900 Nr Metro, Ballston, restrs., 2BR, 2BA, freshly painted, new wd kit flr., view of sunset. Seller will contribute towards pur. of closing costs.
Marie, Re/Max Distinctive, 703-749-0416, x54.

ARL/HYDE PARK CONDOS $299K
Totally Renov PH Studio/1 BR w/granite counters & wd flrs look grt. OPEN SUN 12-3. FSBO. Will corporate w/RE agents Call 508-221-0300

ARL N/Rosslyn/River Pl. $165,000
LGE STUDIO wlk to Metro.

STUDIO/W PRKG. $158,000
Both include new fitness cntr. Other units avail. homesdatabase.com/ar5543571 Beth, Arl RIty 703-836-4610

DUPONT/$235,000—CHARMING STUDIO! Great, penthouse lvl in high-rise at 19th & T. Wlk to everything. Great view and lots of built-ins. Call for EZ appt to see.**JIM LAHEY, RE/MAX 202-285-2400**

DUPONT/$349,900—NEW LISTING! Beautiful 1BR/1BA @ The Lauren, 20th & N. Steps to Metro. Updated kitchen, 24/7 desk, roof deck w/pool. Call for EZ appt.**JIM LAHEY, RE/MAX 202-285-2400**

FAIRFAX/DUNN LORING $465,000
Lux 2BR, 2BA condo across street from Dunn Loring Metro, 2 Garage Spots, HWD Flrs, SS Appl, Granite Cntrtops. Fitness Ctr. 2655 Prosperity Ave #213
301-537-1436 **www.washdcmetrohomes.com**

FALLS CHURCH $189,950
FSBO, 1BR, good nghbrhd, renov, close to bus/ Metro. 703-473-2983

Fredericksburg/Orange County
CONDOS FROM $129,000
Only 7 Left!
2 BR, 1 BA Units OPEN 1-3
20 mins from Fredericksburg & Culpepper. No $$ down. DIR: From Tysons: 66W to Exit 43A; 29S; 15S to Orange. R Spicers Mill; L Berry St. to 105. Unit #6 Orange, VA 22960. Call Karen Rollings
RE/MAX 2000 301-928-4862

GAITH/RIO/$269K-RAMB-LIKE CONDO. 2BR/1BA, fncd yd, wlk to shops, rests. .152 CROSSBOW LANE. CALL FOR APPT. 202-277-8960.

LANDMARK— Open Sun 1-4 $243,900 Gorg newly renov 1BR 1BA. New kit & BA. Utils incld Location!!! I-395/Duke St W, 1st R Beauregard, R Quantrell, L on N. Armisted to 434 #102 703-256-2335

LOGAN $408,000 OPEN SUN 1-4PM
1211 13TH STREET, NW UNIT 405
- New luxury 1BR Condo
- Hardwood floors, SS appliances
- Large bay windows
- Walk to Metro & Whole Foods
- Close to everything!
- Tour at www.senaterealty.com

James Williams 240-401-4002
Senate Realty Inc. 202-558-6591

LOGAN $650,000
1441 Rhode Island #401
SAT & SUN 2BR 2BA Garage parking, extra storage incl, great light, fireplace, balcony, fit center, concierge, metros, Whole Foods, secure building.
Call 240-472-5244

NE 4929 Foote Street
Buyer Seminar-Saturday, Apr 1st.
Join us fr 1-4 for refreshments, raffle & give-aways; learn in 30 mins. how to become an owner in 30 days!
BRANCH PARK Condominiums,
luxury 1 & 2 BR's starting below $200,000
*Cherry Wood Flrs *Granite Counter Tops
* All Marble Baths *Recessed Lighting
*Washer & Dryer Units *Pvt Secur. Prkg.
FREE QUALIFICATION AVAIL! for more info call Wy, 202-547-2703 or Nate, 202-262-8819.
RE/MAX Allegiance 202-547-5600

NE 4929 Foote Street Branch Park Condos
1 and 2 Bedrooms, starting below $200,000! Features include: Hdwd floors, Granite Countertops, Stainless Appliances, Washer & Dryer, Marble Tile, Recess Lighting, Central Air, On-site Parking & Electronic Entry. **Open Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4.**
For more information contact Nate Tate,
202 262-8819 or Wyvongela Spratt, 202 547-2703.
RE/MAX Allegiance
202-547-5600

RESTON-$299,000 2BR/1½BA, 2nd flr condo. MBR, 2clts, ½BA, LR/DR to rear unit, ovrlkg strm & pklnd, sldg gls dr to balc, kit, all new oak cabs/flrng/appls., BAs updtd;Dennis 703-675-2650. ERA Teachers, Inc.

RESTON/HARBOR CT
2 BR, 2 BA, Condo on Lake Thoreau. Price reduced to $369K. Call Tom Williams, The Real Estate Exchange, 703-850-5073

RESTON—New 1BR condo, den & balcony in The Carlton House, 8th Flr. $349K. Mike, 571-437-7474

Sterling $319,900
EXCELLENT COMMUTER LOCATION!
Spacious 2BR/2.5BA 2-lvl condo! LR/DR, eat-in kit., balc., marble FP, walk-in clsts, high ceilings, upstrs laundry rm. Mins. from Rte 7, 7100, 28, 495, Toll Rd, Dulles airpt, comm. trans & shops! 1yr HOW. Motivated seller - must sell FAST! Call today to view!
571-434-9309 (H) 703-862-9537 (C)

Drive you.
"Cars" can put you in the right wheels. **Wednesdays.** express

STERLING/$320K/Open SA/SU-2 Lvl end unit TH. condo, 2MBR, 2½BA, lg. LR, fpl, w/o patio, conven. loc., near Rt7. 46980 COURTYARD SQ. (20164). Call Cesar, 703-864-5736. REALTY 2000.

SW/Waterfront $220,000
Just Listed
Lge effcy, shows like a model. Murphy bed, Call **703-403-0748JOBIN REALTY**

VIENNA-Open 12-4—Walk to Metro. Age 55+ community, 2BR, 2BA 1300 + SF, quiet & sophisticated living, $499K. Call 703-346-6425 for entry.

VIENNA—Walk to Metro. Age 55+ community, 2BR, 2BA 1368 + SF, quiet & sophisticated living, $499K. 2907 Saintsbury Dr #106. Fairfax, VA. 22031. Call 703-346-6425

Washington DC $365,000
CATHEDRAL TOWERS
Doorman, 24 hr front desk, pool, valet, tennis, sauna & gym.
- 1 BR, 1 BA
- 11th Floor
- Walk-in Closets
- Parking Included
- Near Metro Bus

4201 Cathedral Ave, #1122E. Corner of Cathedral & New Mexico. Sharon Heiden, MCM Realty 703.444.4513.

WESLEY HEIGHTS $495,000 DRAMATIC
Sheek and sophisticated renovated 1BR/1BA in upscale Sutton Towers. Amenities incl hdwd flrs & granite. Near shopping & restaurants! **3101 New Mexico Ave, NW. Apt 538**. RE/MAX Allegiance
202-338-8900 **Eileen Rosenberg 301-526-3595**

HOUSES FOR SALE

$ALL CASH 1000 HOUSES WANTED$
No equity required any condition
BJ 202-729-0810 fastcashdc.com

1.5% Cash Back on New Construction Homes, Realtor, VA 571-233-6098

4007 CONN. AVE, NW #2 BY OWNER
1BR/1BA condo 750sf Prvt entr
Granite, jacuzzi, sep. HVAC
$149,500 or Best Reasonable Offer
Inspection Sat. 1-5, Sun. 10-5
Condo will be sold Sunday night to
HIGHEST BIDDER 301-379-5695

ABBOTSTOWN, PA—24 wooded acres in York Co., 1 mi. off the road, percked for 3 other lots. Other than cabin lot w/ stream. Small 2BR cabin w/ extra lge porch. 800sqft living space. Great deer hunting or very pvt getaway. $650,000. Call 717-637-9852

ALEX/$459,900—BLISSFUL 100+ ac pkland. End-unit 3 fin lvl TH. W-o bsmt, 4BR, 2F/2H BA & great views! LR, fpl, deck, rec rm, fenced patio, new pt, upgrd carp. Peggy REMAX 703-824-4728

ALEX/$475K- Nr Beacon Hill Shpng Ctr. 3BR, lg unf. bsmt. w/wrkshp, 30min/Cap Hill, 10min/ Metro. Lg. bckyd., ½ac. lot, can email photos. 703-620-5242 or 202-484-7122/prin. only.

ALEX/KINGSTOWNE $430,000
REDUCED
Gorgeous End unit TH, 2BR, 2½BA, full fin bsmt can be 3rd BR. call **703-403-0748 JOBIN REALTY**

ALEX—OPEN SAT's & SUN's in March. 12:30-4:30 New 2800 SF TH's. Grand 4-lvl homes w/2-car gar., Nr Old Town, Huntington Metro, all Military Bases, Pentagon, 5 mi to Crystal City, 7 mi to DC! Zero down fin. **SCENIC VIEWS!** Starting high $500's to mid $600's. Rent-to-Own option.
703-899-6752 or 703-242-6001

ALEXANDRIA OPEN SUN 1-5 $390,000
Walk to METRO!
3 Level Duplex: Completely renovated kitchen, all new windows, huge yard, finished rec room, 2 bdrm, renovated bath. Looks great top to bottom.
DIR: From Beltway, exit Telegraph Rd S, LEFT on N Kings Highway, Pass Metro Station, RIGHT on Fort Dr., LEFT on Williamsburg Rd to 6022.
LONG & FOSTER 703-405-5119

AN INVESTMENT SEMINAR—Sat Apr 1 LANDLORDING 101: Leases, Ads, Criminal/Credit Checks, Evictions, Repairs. NW, DC 11-1 RSVP $10
202-350-9034 www.citydwellers.us

AQUIA HARBOUR 6 OPEN HOUSES SUNDAY 1-5
3 to 4 Bedrms, 2½ to 3½ Baths

319 Ironside Cove	$500,000
312 Ironside Cove	$675,000
2031 Admiral Dr.	$429,900
210 Midshipman Cir.	$439,900
1039 Harbour Dr.	$575,000
2210 Harpoon Dr.	$450,000

Dir: I-95 to Exit 143 to Aquia Harbour - get map at guard gate.
ROCHON REALTY, INC 540-840-2921

ARBUTUS $250,000 OPEN SU 12-3
3/4BR TH. Separate DR, bsmt. W/D, D/W, & refrig. New roof in '04. Replacement wdws. Immed. avail. 1044 DOWNTON RD. 410-375-2950.

ARL N $584,000
SHORT WALK TO METRO—Vintage 1930 Bungalow. Fully renovated. Hdwds, 9' ceilings, walk to WO&D, Dog Park. Call Kit Britton, Re/Max Allegiance, 703-294-6705.

ARLINGTON—$624,900. Great all brick 4BR, 2FBA 3 lvl. With snrm, deck, patio, gar, fncd yrd, gas fp, sep DR, updated kit, BA, roof & much more 2814 12th St Re/Max 100 703-321-7697.

ARLINGTON SO.—Renovated Duplex for $635,000. Close in Arlington. 2 units each w/2BR, hdwd flrs, wash/dry, unlimited rental potential. Call Beth Arlington Realty, Inc. 703-944-9706; 703-836-4610.

ASHBURN OPEN SUN 1-4 $395,000
3 BR, 2 FBA, 1 HBA. Stunning 4 lvl TH in popular Ashburn Village. Newly remod kitchen, new carpet, hdwd flrs on main lvl. This is a must see, come buy. 44052 Laceyville Terr. Call Deb Ellis, Highland Realty 571-643-3387

Atlantic City, NJ — 2BR, delux Condo, Skyline Tower Fairfield. 1 week - starting 4/23. $650. Call 240-421-9900.

BETHANY BEACH/SALT POND
1 Mi. to ocean/on canal w/dock. Cust. 4BR/2.5BA, golf, tennis, pools, $964,900. FSBO. 302-539-3686

BETHESDA.—Store frt on busy st in Woodmont Tri. New flrs, trap lighting, alarm & BA. 1683 sq ft. Agents welcome 301-664-9662

Drive you.
"Cars" can put you in the right wheels. **Wednesdays.** express

BOWIE $543,950 Trade in your old home!—Spectacular brkfrnt COL. Spacious, sunny rms, upgraded kit, recessed lts, hdwds, skylt, 6ft jacuzzi. Some closing help. Helen-RE/MAX Sails/301-908-5385

BRISTOW, VA—4.8 acs. zoned A1, potential for comm'l development, 4 lane hwy. frontage, service road in back. 703 932-7957

BROOKVILLE— 3, 1 acre lots, low $500K/ea. Permit ready. 410-666-3042

Bryans rd. MD $620,000
6812 LANTANA Dr.
This beautiful house features 5bdrs, 4 1/2bths 2car grg. more at 2hdb.com/ch5550684

CANCUN, MEXICO—Beachfront, 1BR condo, 2Baths full kit, pool, 24 hr security, $125/night, wkly & monthly rates avail. 301-581-0432

CAP HGTS—900 to 3600 s.f. avl. Flex space., great rates. No automotive.Please call 301-881-0787

CAP HILL OPEN SUN 1-4 $599,900
648 6th St, NE
3BR, 1FBA, 2HBA brick colonial. Well maintained! Blocks to Union Station. Call **Aaron Hargrove 202-438-0701** for questions **RE Execs 2000.**

CAPITOL HEIGHTS—FLEXIBLE OWNER TERMS - 3bd 2ba w/ Basement, Off Street Parking, $224,500. Owner will to take back up to 15%
Call Nicole at 301-213-7246

CAPITOL HEIGHTS $275,000
3BR, 3¼BA TH w/Jacuzzi in MBR, hdwd flrs., fully fin bsmt w/FP & sep ent., patio, 2 assigned prkg spac. Off PA Ave, nr Metro, 495, 395, & 295. FSBO 301-735-1448

CATHARPIN $749,900—4397 SANDERS LANE 3BR/2.5BA Rambler, 7acres, pool. MANASSAS $525K 8713 BARNETT STREET 5BR/3BA, new carp, Lg yd. Cheryl Kenny 703-338-2980. Crossroads Realtors

CENTREVILLE—2 MINUTES FROM 66, GREAT LOCATION 4 Bedroom 3 Full Bath Single Family. Hrdwd, Ceramic throughout, Nicely Updated! New on market. $ 585,000 Toll Free Info 1-866-314-6688 ID# 2401 Keller Williams Realty

Centreville $459,000
GREAT BUY
This is the one! Perfect Twhse with 3bdrm, 2 full, 2 half bths, garage, SS ktch, wd flrs, humidifier etc. Dont miss this great home. A Must See!
Weichert, Realtors
703-897-4777 703-346-1513

CHANTILLY $800,000
NO QUALIFY. $10K cash to move in. Brand new SFH. 4-BR 3½-BA, 2-car gar., nr Fair Oaks mall. $50K below mkt. 703-980-3620 Alex

COLLEGE PARK $450,000
5BR, 3FBA, 2Kitc, hdwd flrs, w/w cpt. 2 Apts or 1 home, your choice. 8721 36th Ave (20740). Call Mrs Craven, 301-704-5214 Long & Foster

College Park $475,000
A STEAL,LAST CHANCE
FSBO ,3KSF, 6-2.5, HDWD,FP,NEW ROOF,200AMP ELECT, CPR GTRS, WDWS, ADTN,10K LOT,OSP,HUGE GAR,HUGE,HUGE,,WILL BE RENTED IF NOT SOLD!!!
Call 301-446-0268!

COLUMBIA $479,900
Unique colonial on private cul-de-sac. 4-BR 2½-BA, large deck w/professional landscaping. Quality throughout. Clean & well maintained.
Steven DeLuca 301-593-0618
DeLuca & Associates Real Estate
Broker - 301-445-2800

COLUMBIA HTS $525,000
1406 PERRY PLACE N.W.
3BR, 1FBA, 2 HBA. Fully renovated! New kit cabs, appls, new hdwd flrs throughout, fully fin bsmt, 2 new rear decks, OSP for 1 car. Call **Aaron Hargrove** for more details. **202-438-0701 Realty Execs 2000.**

CULPEPER CO—320 acres. Prime farm land on river w/2 houses, feed lot, mountain views & good fencing. $2,563,000.
BROWNING RE 540-825-0731

DALE CITY $429,900
SFH, 4-BR 2½-BA, brk & siding, lg. fncd yrd., lg. fam. rm. w/fpl., gar., on cul-de-sac. Fabulous renovation just completed—it sparkles! Call 202-498-1641

DIST HTS $268,00
3 yrs young. 3 BR, 2 BA, frpl, fin bsmt, hdwd flrs, Call Ms Evans, 240-472-2119 or Exit Realty. 301-560-6700

DISTRESS SALE/FIXER UPPERS
Starting Price $300,000 & Above
Receive free list, some need minor repair. 24-hr recorded msg. 1-800-681-9853 enter ID#1079
www.tyreerealestate.com

DISTRICT HTS—3 lvl, 3Br, 2.5ba TH, fully fin. bsmt. $259,900 Call Ida Lumpkin Exit Prem. RIty 301-518-1777 or 301-560-6700

DUMFRIES/ South Bridge $599,900-Seller Offering $10K in closing costs. 3lvl 4BR, 3½BA, 3600 s.f. Wide open flr. plan.Upgrades galore. Full fin. RR. 17668 Avenel Ln. Call 571-236-8766. JOBIN REALTY.

EASTERN SHORE/CRUMPTON, MD
8 mi. to Chestertown, 16,000 sq ft property w/20 rms, 2-lvl bldg & store front, 3 apts. Move-in cond. Asking $425K. Has $2500/mo income potential. Principals only. Call 410-708-6695

EASTON WATERFRONT COTTAGE
Loc. just behind the Easton airport. This charming cottage loc. on 3 ac. overlooking Glebe Creek w/deep water dock. 2BR + den, 2 full BA. Lovely weekend home. $1750/mo. Owner/agt, Salley Widmayer, 202-215-6174

EDGEWATER, MD/LOCH HAVEN
1 house on 2 lots. Opportunity for development in Anne Arundel Co. **410-798-1817 or 410-279-5215**

FAIRFAX/$895.5K-Gorgeous!Lovely exec-style Colo. Outside the bltwy. Quiet cul-de-sac backs to trees. Ovr 4500 s.f., 5BR, 3½BA, 3 fin. lvls, 2 car gar. huge deck. 8 yrs old, Cul-de-sac. 8907 Golden Gate Dr. **Call Joann, 703-624-1594. Re/Max Allegiance**

FAIRFAX CO $300,000 + Lot Costs
4BR, 2.5BA, 3 LVL col w/ 2 car gar. Call for details.FFX Rlty/Rick 703-385-RICK 703-385-7425
www.JustCallRick.com

FALLS CH CITY/EFC METRO— Luxury furn offcs in renov TH. Leased separately or in combination. Sec entry. Conf rms. Kitchenette. Copy ctr. Reception.-
Treena 703-927-3863 Korte Realty 703 532-7704

Fixer Upper—Bargains, these homes need work, lowest prices. Call for a free list. Free recroded message 1-866-580-8967 ID#1049 Realty one inc.

FORT WASH/TANTALLON $575,000
Club side 5/3½/2 Colonial. Fin lower level. Below appr for immed settlement. Vivian, RE/MAX.
301 980-0520

FRANKLIN COUNTY, PA.—Luxurious ofc bldg, EZ access to 81 & 70. Priced to sell. Long term leases in place. 717-816-0095

FREDERICKSBURG - $329,900 —Totally freshly painted SFH 4BR, 2BA, Fpl, deck, 1-car gar, fncd bck yard. MLS #SP5538986. **Call Leslie, 703-587-4575, Carter Real Estate, 703-383-3245**

FREDERICKSBURG— Prime location. Retail/ofc space at busy intersection. Up to 4200 s.f. 703-327-6193

FREE HOMEBUYER & CREDIT ANALYSIS WORKSHOP
Saturday April 1 , 12pm-2pm
Learn how to increase your Credit Scores, 1st Time Homebuyers Program, On-site Pre Approvals. Interest Only Loans & More. Limited Seating. To register call:
Real Estate Development Institute in conjunction w/ WOL & WYCB Radio. Zellia Center 595 Ritchie Rd, Capitol Heights MD. FOOD & BEVERAGES will be served
301 560-6797

FRIARS HILL, WV—2 quality homes, 66 ac., mtn views, retreat or perm. residence. Wrap-around porch, hot tub, 2 fpls, wood ceil./walls/flrs/loft, conv. to the Greenbrier resort, Snow Shoe, $649,900 or 1 w/61 ac. for $485,000. T.C. Johnson Realty 304-645-6222, tjrebroker@aol.com

GAINESVILLE $639,900
Custom SFH, 4-BR 3½-BA on 2.62 pvt acres. Open flrplan, birch flrs main lvl, gour kit, 2-lvl dk, MBR w/sitting area. Open Sun. 1-4. Dir: 66 W, 234 N, L Stepney Dr., L Fairland Ct. 703-754-3036 Jobin Realty

GAITH/ $380K— OPEN SUN 1-4PM
END UNIT TH. (Flower Hill). Over 2,000 s.f. 3BR, 3.5BA, den, FR, 18415 HONEY LOCUST CIR. 240-423-5528

GAITHERSBURG $680,000
5 BR, 3½ BA SFH. 12169 McDonald Chapel Dr. Call Hannah 240-793-2148
Email: hannahmoses@mris.com

Gettysburg—3BR Rancher on 1.24 acres,LR,DR, Kit.,3Bath,Full Base,Att Gar,CH,CA.$289,900. Call 717-337-0126. www.458ridgeroad.com

HERNDON $409,000
Open Sun 1-4pm. 2 Mstr suites w/gar, completely renov'd from top to bottom. 13132 Marcey Creek Rd, (20171). EQUITY/MAX Realty, 703-754-6141

HYATTSVILLE $249,999
319 Meadow Way (20785)
3BR, 1½BA, 2 lvl TH end unit.
Call Michelle, 240-304-4572 Realty Depo USA

HYATTSVILLE/Takoma Park—built out already done on nice size ofcs **w/lots of free pkg,** rght on New Hamp Ave, ½ mi from DC, metro stops at door w/subway 10 mins away. Call Leslie Holmes M-F 301-270-4400; lholmes@blakereal.com

I BUY HOUSES—Any condition, quick settlement. 301-996-3989

KETTERING—TH, 3BR, 1.5BA. Built 1986. Shows well.$255,000 Edward Cunningham, Exit Premere Realty 301-669-0063 301-560-6700

LAUREL—2495 s.f. Clean condo complex, 20' clear drive-in, warehouse/ofc/retail possible. Call 630-201-5348 or 630-794-0155

Lorton $749,900
FSBO SFH - 4bd, 3.5ba, 2 car gar
3700sf fully loaded Close to I95, VRE & Slug
703-220-8618 Owner/Agt. **jackrobertsrealty.com**

MANASSAS $360,000
Beaut. 4-yr-young 3-lvl TH, 3-BR 2½-BA, all appls., mins. from I-66. 703-409-3721 or 540-439-1450

MANASSAS $660,500
SFH, 5 yrs old, 3 fin. lvls., 5-BR 3½-BA, wlk-out bsmt, in a very nice ngbrhd. Please come and join os at our open house 1-4 on Sun. 7781 Albert Myer Ct., zip 20111. 703- 201-0568 Partners in Real Estate

MANASSAS—New 3BR 2½BA SFH. $498K. Mike, 571-437-7474

MD, DC, VA—Need Real Estate Investors w/good credit (680 FICO or higher) & $5K min. to invest. 202-747-5066

MONTGOMERY CO— 44+Acres. 3 BR, 3.5 BA. Professionally remodeled, updated farmhouse over 2,000sqft w/ oversized 2 car gar. Stable w/6+ stalls, wash rack, tack rm & hay storage. 60x90 indoor riding arena, hot walker, board fences, office bldg, many out-buildings. 5 car gar. Zoned architectural, no subdivision. Excel for landscaper, possible church site, or horse lover. Low taxes. $2.5M. Qualified buyers only. 3% to selling agent. **240-464-6692**

MYRTLE BEACH BAREFOOT RESORT—Fully furnished 2BR, golf condo, golf membership incl. Pool, cabanas, $232,999. 703-753-9928.

N. NECK—Deep-water lot with pier and spectacular view. Million dollar home neighborhood. Near the Bay, 2.8 acres, 612 ft of shoreline. $329,000. 804-450-0409 www.Nnecksunbelt.com

N.E. DEANWOOD OPEN SUN 1-4 $206,000
5058 JUST ST N.E.
Fully renovated 2BR 1BA, complete w/new kitchen, granite counter tops, new appls, new cabinets, Whirlpool tub, fully finished bsmt & oversized new rear deck. Call **Aaron Hargrove** for more details.
202-438-0701 Realty Execs 2000
.

NE/Eastland Gardens $450,000
4404 Ord Street
Detch'd renov'd 4 BR, 3 BA, hdwd flrs, CAC on 6000 s.f. lot. Call Logan, Capitol Area Realty, 202-276-8835

NEW CARROLLTON $405K
6001 Westbrook Dr. (20784). 4 lvl split, 4BR, 3BA, garage, upgraded kit, Hdwd flrs. HMS warranty. Open Sun. 9-5. Moving Sale. 202-415-2718.

NEW MARKET,VA/$499,900-Approx. 3200 s.f. ranch style on 3 acs. Surrounded by 240 ac. farm. **Mil. $ views for ½ the price!** 3BR, 3BA, lg. kit., lg. LR, 2 fpls, beaut. crown moulding, wd flrs, libr. **Some antiqs.will convey.** A must see! 540-421-0531

NORFOLK —Bayfront condos, 2BR, 2BA, renov. hdwd flrs, granite countertops, $239,000 & up. 757-348-3360; 757-321-0564.

NORTHERN NECK— waterfront home w/dock. 2 yrs old. 3 BR, 2½ BA, 250' of Riprock shoreline. MWL 5', has beautiful sunris & sunset from all rooms. FSBO. Call 804-453-4008 or 804-436-2791

Classifieds

HOUSES FOR SALE

NORTHERN NECK
THINKING WATERFRONT
Don't delay—Call John Jay. Land, homes, retreats starting at $250K. 804-580-5297 Middle Bay Realty

NW $430,000
2BR House. Remod. cac. w/d. hdwd flrs. d/w. garbage disposal. Close to U St Metro & Verizon Ctr. **1528 New Jersey Ave. Call 301-785-1913**

NW/71 N St—$490K. Huge Victorian 4BR w/unique open floorplan, large kitchen & English bsmt. Near downtown. Call David 301-434-9490 x336. Long & Foster

OAKTON/ $615K-Dynamic loc. Quiet enclave of gar. THs just off Chain Bridge Rd. & Rt66. Wlk to Oakton shpng & Q bus to Metro. 3 Lvl TH, 3BAs+2HBAs, neutral, bright, open, spac., bcks to trees. **Call Joann, 703-624-1594. Re/Max Allegiance**

OCEAN CITY, MD/New bayside—21ST St. Condo ovrlkng marina. Wlk to bch & board. 3BR, 2½BA, gas fpl, granite, SS, huge living area. South end unit, slps 10, furnished, $635,000. Call 410-365-2042

PAGE CO VA—Don't put your dream home on a postage stamp lot! 2.5 ACS PASTURELAND, nice lot w/town wtr access. $150K. Call 540-778-4193

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MOUNTAIN RETREAT
Brk beauty on pvt lane boasts Old Rag views & acs. Too many feat. to name thruout 2 spac lvls. Entertain in style: poolside or in your own party rm. Pick apples frm your own grove & enjoy sunsets on your bk dk. Call now to be swim/sunning by Memorial Day. **$789K.** Betsy Hille,
RE/MAX Regency, 540-341-1081.

RESTON-$430,000 -Grt Loc on cul-de-sac, wlk to swim, ten., & bus. SFH, 4BR, 2FB, LR, DR, lg FR w/FP. Deck & fncd yd., new wind, siding & crpt. dwnstairs. #11573 Embers Court. FSBO. 703-501-9914.

RIVERFRONT HOME.—Need rehab/remodel, 2BR/ 1BA, full bsmt,
1.47ac, canoe/fish from property, Front Royal/Luray area, reduced $165,000. 540-551-2916 leave msg

ROANOKE Rapids Area, NC-10 Ac. Parcels some w/views of 4,000 ac. Roanoke Rapids Lake. Public boat landing vry cls. Conven. to I95. Priced fr. $39,995-$69,995. Owner fin. avl. 804-353-2531. toomeyland.com

Rockville/Aspen Hill $420,000
SOUGHT AFTER COMMUNITY
Large brick TH, 4BD 3.5 BA, FP walkout Basmt, pool, tennis upgrades etc. for appt. 301-598-4559

ROCKVILLE $499,000
Lovely 3BR 2FB 2HB TH
Walk to Metro, town-center, shops. Bright, Frsh paint, 3lvl,deck, skylts, New aplncs, fire place.OPEN 1-4 SAT & SUN CALL SHINE (301) 437 0458

SEAT PLEASANT $317,500
5-BR detached, split foyer w/new kit. & deck. Lg corner lot. H/W flrs thruout. New crpt & paint. New W/D! Call Maria 301-332-8330 or office 301-421-1114. RE/MAX.

SILVER SPRING $575,000
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Totally renovated 3BR, 2BA, new Kitchen & Laundry rm & appls, all on 1st flr. Unfinished Basement.
Near Forest Glen Metro & Holy Cross Hosp.
1800 Sanford Rd. (20902)
Call Sanford Malakoff, 301-674-2892.

SILVER SPRING—3% down - NO BANK QUALIFYING, OWNER WILL CARRY - 3 bd 2ba, hardwood floors
Call Nicole at 301-213-7246

SILVER SPRING—Silver Spring. Dan Krell, Realtor. Fairfax Realty, Inc. Direct 301-529-8475; (O)301-881-9800. Equal Housing Opporunity.
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SOUTH RIDING/42684 SANDMAN TERR/20152
Lux brickfront 2-car gar 3lvl TH w/3BR 2F/2H BA on 2500 sf. Hdwd flrs, 3-story bump-out, custom paint, granite counters & more. $509,900. **703-981-0940**

South Riding $515,000
Good Price
Brick Town House,3 Beds, 2.5 Baths,2 Car gar, 3 yrs old. NewStar Realty (703-989-0550)

SPOTSYLVANIA/PARTLOW—19 ac Estate Property w/4BR perk. $349,900. **Adjoing 2 ac lot** w/3BR dble wide. 2 car garage. $189,900. Mins to 95 & Lake Anna. 540-748-0427

SPRINGFIELD- $520,000—Fabulous graciously appointed TH w/3 fin lvls, over 2500 SF, 4BR, 2FBA, 2HBA, hdwd flrs thro'out main lvl, LR features frpl & access to lge deck. Backs to trees, lwr lvl rec rm features 2nd frpl, walk out to nice size fncd yd. OPEN SUNDAYS 1-4 P.M. Call Diedre at 410-903-6253 or Tony at 571-274-7720- Senate Realty

STERLING $679,900
ON OVER 1/2 ACRE
Beautiful 5BR home on wooded lot. Pergo wd flrs, 5th BR/office on main lvl. 10 Halifax Ct, Sterling, VA 20165.
National Realty,LLC 703-786-9332

STERLING— $699,902
Open 1-4 Wow, shows like a model. Turn the key & move in. Luxary abounds. Expansive MSuite w/ sumptous ba. FR that boasts bright sitting area, in-law suite, convenient location. A home that must be seen. Rte 7 W, to Cascades pkwy N., R. on Summerhill, R. Sonoma Way, #20927 offered by Sharon Haymon L & F 703-402-2955

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Tyson's Corner - Minutes to Metro! $484,900
New Kit w/ Stainless Steel Appliances!
3BD, 2FB&2HB TH, Many Upgrades! 7903 Tyson Oaks Cr, Vienna (walk to Mall) call (703) 786-9647

UNIV PARK/$459K-NR UMd. 3BR, all brk rancher, w/fin. bsmt., carport. Pristine cond. many upgrds. 6715 Adelphi Rd. Call for appt. Tom Richardson, Long & Foster, 1-888-866-0003 / 301-261-8902

UPPER MARLB/Kings Grant - $360,000 - TH. 3BR. 1½BA. full fin bsmt. eat-in kit. LR. DR. deck. grt closet space. Nice starter home. Seller will give $5000 + ½ transfr tax toward clsng. 301-674-9376.

UPPER MARLBORO $339,900
55+ active senior citizen community. 2BR, 2BA, 1-car garage. Call Victor Watson, 301-292-6800. RE/MAX Colonial Homes.

VIENNA—4BR 3BA. Au pair suite. Metro. 0.69 ac. $750K. 703-989-9919

VIENNA NEW LISTING $749,900
The charm of yesteryear remodeled for today. Gorgeous 3 lvl brk Cape/Col. w/gleaming hwd flrs on 2 lvls. New: kit., 2-car gar., windows, lower level and more. 4-BR, 3-BA, 1st flr lib, 2 fpls, deck, LL w/rec rm, full BA, BR, & sep. entry. Loc. betw. 2 Metros on beaut. lot. Park Plaza Properties 703-980-6567

Waldorf $327,900
For Sale
Lovely 3LVL, 3BRM, 2.5 BA Townhouse. Large family room, eat in kitchen with sun room. Dining room, Living room. Patio w/fenced in yard.
Weichert, Realtors Gerald Battle
301-885-3655 301-535-0870

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OPEN SUN 1-4PM. Great loc. Lge MBR, BA w/jacuzzi tub, 2 decks, new roof, windows, close to lake/Park. Lots of Privacy. Call 703-656-4111 or 24 hour info line, 1-800-818-8929 Ad #21014
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ACURA—'95 LEGEND LS, blk, 4dr sdn, auto, pw, pdl, 133Kmi, $3695. Call Ft. Wash., MD. 240-832-5808

ARCTIC FOX—30 U travel trlr, 32 ft/2 slides, nonsmkg unit, incl. hitch & TV's. To see, visit home.earthlink. net/rcbaird/index.html. Call 301-620-7689 lv msg

ASTON MARTIN '61 Saloon—4 spd, 46k mi, grey, $50000. 614-570-9876

AUDI '01 A4—1.8 Turbo AWD Auto 69k Blk w/tan, 120W Bose, Mnrf, loaded, v. clean md insp $12750 (OBO) 301-792-2401

BMW '04 X3 2.5— 29,800 mi. blk, sunrf & moonrf. Fully loaded, excel cond. $27,777 703-622-9128

BMW—'03 525i, auto, perf cond, prem pkg, Xenon lgts, ski bag, 49Kmi, still undr. fact. warr., 1 owner, $26,000. 301-424-7463 301-520-5095

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CHEVY '00 3500— Extra cab dualie, 7.4, 5 spd, ac, ps, pb, 4x4, goose neck hitch, $15,500/obo. Call Tom, 240-882-8798

CHEVY '99 Corvette—Navy Blue, auto, loaded, CD changer, HUD, 2 tops, polished whls. $21,500, 571-262-1499

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CHRYS '02 300M— Loaded, touring pkg, sunrf, all opts, excel cond. 100K mi,$8500. 301-654-7817 or 240-498-3378

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DODGE—'99 Maxi Van, 15-pass., 84K, MD insp., exceptional cond., must see, $7500/OBO, Ray 301-762-3865

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DODGE '95 CARAVAN—Auto, V6, runs great. $1500 call 202-744-7187

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FORD '01 EXPLORER SPORT—4x4, auto, 65K mi, 2DR, red, am/fm/cd, ac, pw, cruise, Ask $9700. 703-448-6161

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HD—'00 SPORTSTER 883, 28K, forward cont, stage 1, like new, $4900/obo.Call 301-975-6170

HONDA—'04 CIVIC, VP, 4dr, blue, auto, 14Kmi, excel cond. 1 Accident. $10,495. Call Ft. Wash., MD. 240-832-5808

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HONDA—'00 Accord, V6 coupe, silver, 115K, very clean, $9885. 571-259-6262

HONDA—'97 CIVIC EX cpe, 5sp, excel cond, fully loaded, 108Kmi, $4,750/obo. 703-323-6060

HONDA '97 Civic—5 spd, 149k mi, Black, AM/FM, 10 CD w/remote, AC, PW/PDL, PS, Cruise, Tilt, $3995, 703-932-5566.

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MERCEDES '90 300SE—4 door, auto, 163K mi, all power, sunroof, airbags, a/c, good condition. $4,400/obo. Call 301-459-1094

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TOYOTA '00 CELICA GTS—6 sp, 58K mi, red w/ lthr seats, cd chngr, snrf. $10,000. 703-350-6386

TOYOTA—'93 CAMRY LE, auto, well-maint, 148K hwy mi, vry gd cond,runs grt, $2900. Call 301-346-7715.

VOLVO '96 850—New tires, battery & brakes. 122K MI. $3,150. Must sell...leaving the country! Call **703-998-4572** or **703-333-3439** & leave a msg.

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HONDA VTX 1800 S '03—2003 Honda VTX 1800 S, extras, 4200 miles. $8495 OBO 703-615-6984

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RINKER - '02 LOA 37'. Twin 350 HP. Merc. Bravo. Only 30 Hrs. fully equipped. Bottom never painted. Lift also avail. Asking $125,000. Call 202-365-3079

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Look out

TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

RICKY CARIOTI/TWP

ILLUMINATED: A person walks on the grounds of Southview Apartments in Oxon Hill, Md., last month. The complex has seen a number of assaults on residents.

Danger at Home

Concern grows in Pr. George's over crime at apartment complexes

Sakinah Thompson moved into Southview Apartments after college, drawn to the Washington area by its abundance of young black professionals and diverse social life. At $600 a month, her one-bedroom apartment was a bargain in a region with skyrocketing rents.

She had lived in the Prince George's County complex two years when, on a spring night in 2003, a man in a ski mask hid in her bathroom, a hammer tucked in his belt. Minutes after she arrived home, he raped her.

After learning of the attack, Southview manager Odell Moon visited Thompson in her apartment. She remembers asking him if he was going to post notices to warn other residents. Moon said it was the first time he was aware of a sexual assault there.

Then he asked if she'd like to move to another apartment on the property. "Are you kidding me?" she recalled telling him. She moved out of Southview the next week.

A year later, after five more women reported being attacked, Thompson learned she was hardly the first victim at the sprawling complex near the District border. Dozens of other sex offenses had been reported previously to Prince George's police. In the past decade, there have been 63 reported incidents, ranging from assaults to fondling and attempted sex crimes. The victims were as young as 8 and as old as 73.

Southview managers like Moon say they were not aware of most sex offenses, and for years posted no warnings about the assaults. The managers sent out general safety cautions and supplemented a team of resident "courtesy officers" by hiring off-duty county police. But the off-duty officers were absent many days.

Infuriated by what she learned, Thompson sued Southern Management, the property's owner, contending that it had a responsibility to provide more protection. The complex, spread over 60 acres with 1,406 apartments, has no security cameras or alarm systems.

"Sexual assaults or not, we never heard anything about any crimes," Thompson said in a recent interview. The Washington Post generally does not name victims of sex assaults without their permission and is not using Thompson's entire name at her request.

Six other tenants who were sexually assaulted at Southview have filed similar lawsuits in the past five years. The company has settled four of the suits and the others are pending.

The lawsuits underscore the pervasive problem of crime in the county around garden apartments, which former Prince George's executive and Maryland Gov. Parris N. Glendening once called "breeding grounds for trouble."

Unlike some of the other complexes that have been cited as crime magnets, Southview is neither rundown nor graffiti-sprayed. Crime in the immediate area is common, but not the worst in the county.

While tenants such as Thompson blame their landlords, Southern Management blames the county for assigning inadequate police resources to the area. Ron Frank, Southern Management's president, said his company could not pay off-duty officers for 24-hour patrols and still keep rents affordable. "It's not my responsibility" to do the job of the police, Frank said. And police officials say they can't be expected to be a constant presence in every apartment building.

"We've committed a tremendous amount of investigative hours there," said Lt. Col. Vincent C. Gay, chief of the county police Investigative Services Bureau. "Every incident reported there was thoroughly investigated."

There have been 12 arrests in the 63 reported incidents at Southview. All came in cases in which the victims knew their attackers. SUDARSAN RAGHAVAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Unhappy home: For victims at Southview, crime at the complex is more than a statistic. Find out how they're coping now. | **Full story in Sunday's Washington Post**

Sunday in The Washington Post

Capital's Steps
Writer Sarah Luria's new book details the design, architecture and interior spaces that make D.C. unique | *Arts*

Ladder Days
Columnist Amy Joyce on how women could better rise in the corporate ranks | *Business*

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Look out | Voices

Fashion | 'Project Runway'

TIM GUNN, fresh from his second stint at "Project Runway," was online Thursday to talk about what to wear for spring. | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

I bought a pair of bronze gladiator-style sandals for the spring, but am unsure what would be a good match for a complete ensemble since I feel like I am in Roman high-tops.

Let's be blunt about this: gladiator sandals are just that. And I'm confident that you bought them for that very reason. Think '50s and embrace that style — a pair of black cropped pants, for example, with a crisp white top. Or try a circle skirt. Don't force the sandals to compete with the rest of your ensemble. Embrace your inner gladiator, just don't carry a trident!

Sandals on men ... a fashion do or a fashion don't? Most importantly, do you wear sandals in warm weather?

I don't. If you're an Agnelli and you're at your palazzo in Capri, do it. Otherwise, do it at your own risk!

My fiance is in his early thirties and yet still insists on living in baggy jeans and track jackets (I think, in part, to camouflage his exponentially expanding belly). Are there any comfortable but less, er, youthful alternatives for light jackets for men that you can think of?

I am in total sympathy with your plight. However, let's resign ourselves to the fact that the look you describe is here to stay. What makes an incremental difference is the quality of the material. Take that track jacket and substitute cashmere for nylon. And try coaxing him into some jeans that fit properly — try the APC brand, expensive, but very chic without being over-designed.

So we're seeing white, white, white (and off-white) this spring. But white shoes remind me of being a six-year-old in an Easter dress and just generally make me want to hurl. What do you recommend shoe-wise for all this white?

I share your view of white shoes, especially in an urban setting like Washington or New York . I recommend that you wear a neutral, bone or taupe.

Why can't the fashion industry design for women who can't or don't want to wear sleeveless, spaghetti strap, low-cut, tight-fit, revealing clothes?

I understand your pain and frustration. There are solutions, but they're pricey — Jil Sander, Prada, MaxMara. Even if you don't want to spend a fortune, visit a high-end boutique, learn from the clothes and put looks together at a more budget-friendly locale.

➜ Today on Live Online

NOON: Got a small space and not sure what to do with it? Designer Debby Saling offers advice on how to turn your small space into a visual oasis.

Letters

Where Was the Review?

THE REVIEW OF the new Mercedes-Benz GL SUV in Wednesday's Express offers little information or insight about the vehicle. With the exception of the info box and a single paragraph, the rest of the article is comprised of a lecture on CAFE standards, the war, taxes and global warming. While I happen to agree with some of the author's views, that is irrelevant since he spends almost no time giving specifics about the SUV itself. I'm interested in learning about the automobile, not reading a rant about how it symbolizes the social ills of the world. Please know that I do not own an SUV; instead each day I ride Metro, where I read your publication. Still, I can see this is a mediocre diversion from real automotive journalism.

—JEFF WALTON
Alexandria, Va.

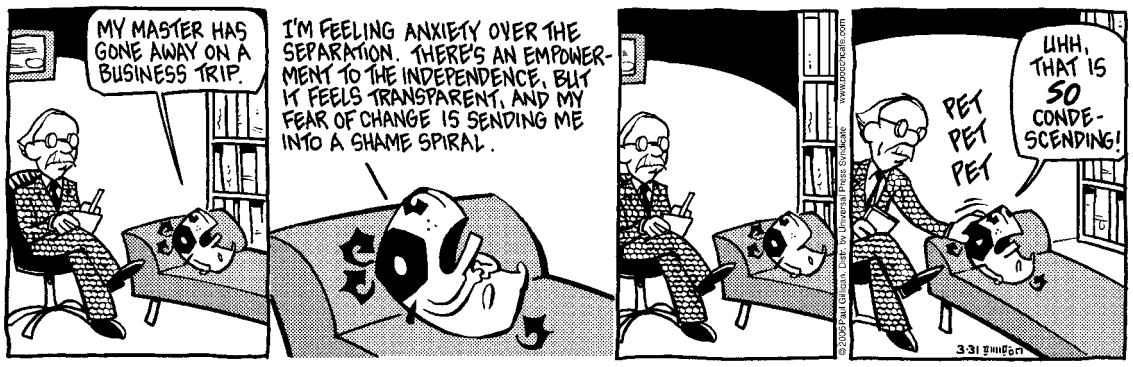
WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

Bizarro | *Dan Piraro*

Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*

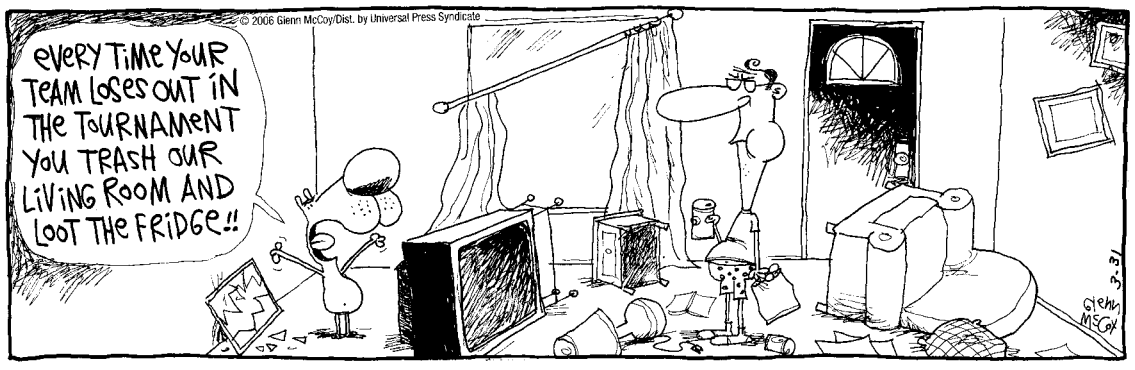
Most men prefer getting married on a Friday. Friday is casual day.

Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*

The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*



Look out

CYNTHIA MCKINNEY VS. A CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER

"I defy you to come up with a circumstance in which you can strike a police officer in any way, and not get charged for it. That's simply a Big No-No ... [n]o matter who you are."

PHOTODUDE.COM SLAMS GEORGIA REP. CYNTHIA MCKINNEY, WHO APPARENTLY JABBED AT A CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WITH HER CELL PHONE WHEN HE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HER AS A MEMBER OF CONGRESS AT A SECURITY CHECKPOINT.

THE Blog LOG

DOG GONE IT!

"Does anyone know who the female dog walker is who lets four dogs run loose every day on Ordway Street ... ? There is a big golden retriever among them that runs and jumps on strangers."

WASHINGTONCITYPAPER.COM/CITYDESK, THE CITY PAPER'S NEW BLOG, QUOTES A NEIGHBOR'S CONCERNS POSTED ON A CLEVELAND PARK LISTSERV.

BACK IN FASHION

"Anderson Cooper's broadcast from Arizona [Wednesday] night marked the return of the rugged, yet fashionable, military shirt [from] Katrina coverage."

SOCIALITELIFE.COM NOTES CNN'S COOPER'S ON-THE-ROAD WARDROBE.

DIVIDING DUPONT CIRCLE

"... [T]ourists will have continued use of the western side of Conn. Ave., and the 19th St. entrance of the metro station. Tourists will be prohibited from crossing Conn. Ave. to the east side, or using the Q St. entrance of the metro station. Naturally, there will be a divider drawn in the metro station, Brady Bunch style.

ROCKCREEKRAMBLER.COM HAS PROPOSED A NO-TOURIST ZONE TO KEEP D.C. LOCALS SAFE ON THEIR OWN TURF. CONNECTICUT AVE., NORTH OF M ST., IS ONE BOUNDARY.

GOOD NEWS FROM IRAQ

"This makes my whole month. It's so nice to wake up to some good news ..."

STARDUST-MELODY.LIVEJOURNAL.COM CELEBRATES THE RELEASE OF FREELANCE REPORTER JILL CARROLL, WHO WAS HELD CAPTIVE IN IRAQ FOR THREE MONTHS.

DO distract yourself. There's more than a few ways to do this, but one of the easiest is to quick-mix your own Indian music at zanorg.com/prodperso/indian. Just click on the various sound effects to turn them on and off; it won't be long before you find yourself checking prices of sitar lessons.

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Give yourself more time to accomplish the usual things; you may have trouble getting started, and the pace may be unusually sluggish.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Someone may be acting on a grudge, and you'll have to work hard to keep yourself free of any real danger.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) There is no point worrying about something that happened in the past, even if it was specific to those unrepeated circumstances.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) What begins slowly is sure to pick up speed, and you don't want to find yourself out of control — particularly where emotions are concerned.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) What begins swiftly is likely to end swiftly as well; instead, focus on something that develops so slowly that you hardly notice it at all.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You'll find there are great benefits to be gained by spending more time on the simple things that otherwise come naturally.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Now is the time to proceed with extra caution; you don't want to close your eyes to the kinds of things that can present real dangers.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Take care that others don't see you as being desperate. You'll want to remain calm, relaxed and in control at all times.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Why sit around and wonder what you should be doing when you can get up and do whatever comes to mind? At least you'd be making headway.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Be sure to make yourself available to others throughout the day. Be there when you're needed, and you'll acquit yourself well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You'll be dealing closely with those who are after something different. Be honest, but don't offer suggestions until they're solicited.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Give yourself more of a chance to see things in a new and unfamiliar way. You'll benefit greatly, particularly on the job.

express

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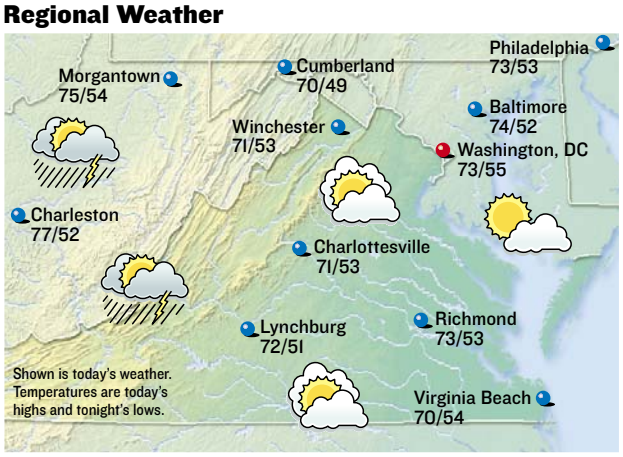
5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly sunny, breezy, warm	A shower or thunderstorm	Partly sunny, a t-storm, breezy	Mostly sunny, a pleasant afternoon	A passing shower in the afternoon	Partly sunny, pleasant
73°	55°	73° / 48°	70° / 50°	68° / 50°	66° / 44°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2006

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.

Temperature

High	68°
Low	42°
Normal high	61°
Normal low	41°
Average humidity	51%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.05"
Normal month to date	3.50"
Year to date	5.76"
Last year to date	9.40"
Normal year to date	9.34"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: **washingtonpost.com/weather**

Regional Forecast

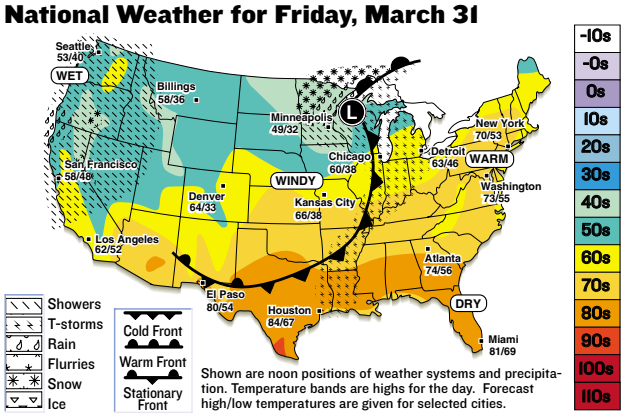
D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny, breezy, warm. High 73. Winds south-southwest 8-16 mph. Tonight, a shower or thunderstorm, mild. Low 55.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	5:55 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:31 p.m.
Moonrise today	6:59 a.m.
Moonset today	9:39 p.m.

First	Full	Last	New
Apr 5	Apr 13	Apr 20	Apr 27

National Weather for Friday, March 31



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.

National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	74/56/pc	72/57/t
Boston	70/50/s	64/44/sh
Chicago	60/38/sh	52/40/pc
Dallas	82/64/t	80/66/t
Denver	64/33/s	64/34/pc
Honolulu	79/68/t	83/69/t
Los Angeles	62/52/r	64/50/pc
Miami	81/69/pc	83/68/s
New York City	70/53/s	67/46/t
Orlando	84/60/s	86/60/s
Seattle	53/40/sh	52/40/sh

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	55/48/c	55/45/sh
Athens	66/52/s	70/55/pc
Berlin	54/41/r	57/39/sh
Buenos Aires	76/61/pc	74/64/pc
Calgary	50/33/pc	48/28/pc
Dublin	52/43/r	50/41/sh
Geneva	55/43/pc	57/47/sh
Moscow	40/29/sn	37/32/sh
Rome	68/52/pc	68/52/pc
Sydney	79/63/sh	73/55/pc
Tokyo	55/39/pc	61/46/s

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Look out People

MICHAEL A. MARIANT/AP

Clooney is generous with his refuse.

CRAP FOR SALE

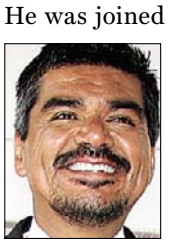
A Bag of His Kitchen Trash Goes for Only Slightly Less

GEORGE CLOONEY's Oscar swag bag sold Wednesday for $45,100 in an online charity auction that began March 21, United Way spokeswoman Sheila Consaul said. The winner would only be identified as a family from Birmingham, Ala., Consaul said. The bag given to presenters at the Oscars included a BlackBerry 8700c, a Kay Unger kimono and a Tahitian-pearl necklace. (AP)

DICHOTOMIES

Tourist Trap, or Beacon Of Hope for Urban Youth?

GEORGE LOPEZ has earned a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He was joined by wife Ann and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa at the ceremony. "I remember being 15, and walking up and down [the Walk of Fame] and dreaming about what I wanted to do and never thinking it was going to be done," Lopez said. Ann cited her husband's rough upbringing in Los Angeles, saying he "is that little blade of grass that got through the cracks and got out." (AP)



JEFF CHRISTENSEN/AP

BAD MODELS

Tyra Is Chortling

NAOMI CAMPBELL was charged with second-degree assault Thursday after allegedly bashing her housekeeper in the head with a phone, New York police said. The 35-year-old supermodel was taken into custody shortly after police investigated the reported assault. The housekeeper, whose name has not been released, needed four stitches. (AP)

PREDICTIONS

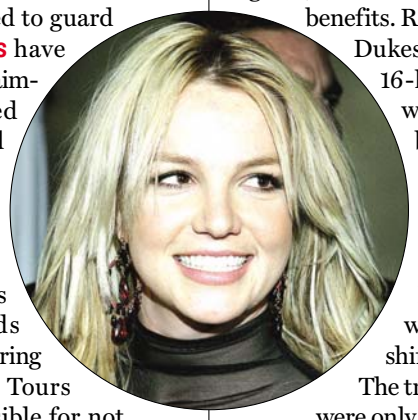
So Shall End 2076's Chad Michael Murray Museum

The Gas City, Ind., museum chronicling the short life of **JAMES DEAN** has closed after struggling financially since its opening in 2004. Owner David Loehr announced in December that he planned to close the museum, but an outpouring of contributions led him to try again. It ultimately shut down at the end of February, and Loehr has packed up and placed the memorabilia in storage. (AP)

ALLEGED CRUELTY

Hey Y'all, Y'all Don't Need Meals. Or Rest. Or Pay!

Three men hired to guard **BRITNEY SPEARS** have filed a lawsuit claiming they worked long hours and were not paid overtime. The lawsuit, filed Tuesday in Los Angeles, names Britney Brands Inc., Britney Touring Inc. and Team Tours Inc. as responsible for not properly compensating former bodyguards Lonnie Jones, Randy Jones and Silas Dukes. Together, the three are seeking damages exceeding $25,000 for unpaid wages and benefits. Randy Jones and Dukes worked 12- to 16-hour shifts and were required to be on call 24 hours a day during trips with Spears, according to the suit. Lonnie Jones worked 12-hour shifts, the suit said. The trio claimed they were only paid a "straight salary," missed meals and didn't receive overtime pay. (AP)



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

SOFT TOUCHES

'A Good Effort, But You Seem Nervous' for Three More Years

PAULA ABDUL has decided she can continue to put up with Simon Cowell on "American Idol." Abdul, who shares judging duties on Fox's hit talent show with Cowell and Randy Jackson, has signed a deal to remain for another three years, the network announced Wednesday. She and Cowell are known for their bickering on the program, which is drawing bigger audiences than ever in its fifth edition. While Cowell often slams contestants, Abdul takes a gentler approach in her comments. The contestants "truly inspire and amaze me each week," Abdul said in a statement. "Of course, I also look forward to putting Simon in his place for years to come." (AP)

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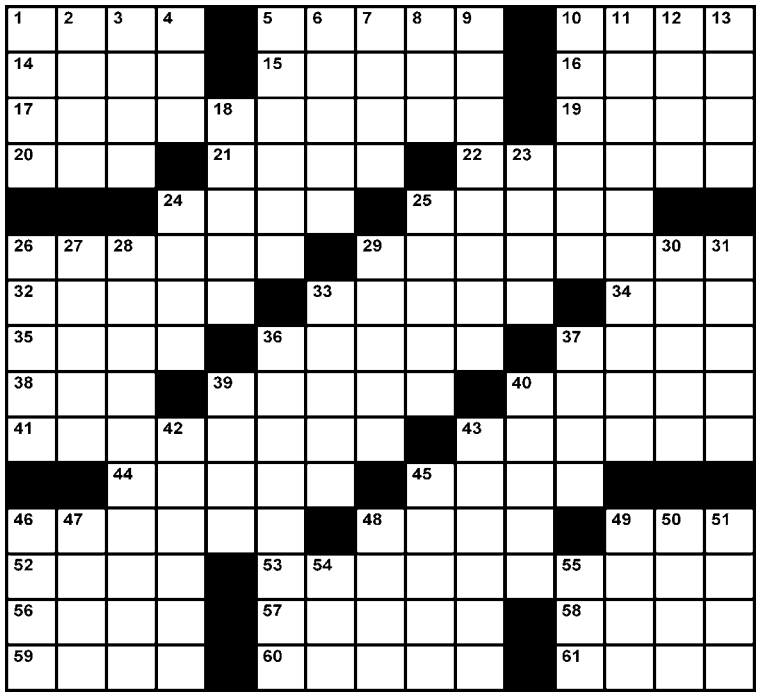
Look out

Play Ball | *Edited by Timothy E. Parker*



ACROSS
1 Trucker's allowance
5 Contradict
10 Leaders of the pack?
14 Monster of the Himalayas
15 Certain potentates
16 Instruction for the chef
17 Some farm utensils
19 Relating to the ear
20 Tours-to-Nancy dir.
21 It has banks in Bern
22 Extracts
24 Friend in a fray
25 Grind, as one's teeth
26 It may be elementary
29 Kind of party
32 Some underground pipes
33 Israel's Sharon
34 Tahiti, e.g.
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38 One way to remove a branch
39 Quarry units
40 "The Remains of the Day" star
41 Period of preparation
43 It's not quite a mouthful
44 Haley's chronicle
45 Casual turndown word
46 Sauteed seafood dish
48 Do ablutions
49 Foreman superior, once
52 Napoleonic battle site
53 Engineers' gear, once
56 Worshipper's word
57 Word with egg or old
58 Speckled reddish-brown
59 100 centesimos, in Chile
60 General's pride
61 Cheep accommodations?

DOWN
1 Dating consideration
2 Bit strap
3 Major suffix
4 One X of XXX
5 Happen to
6 Peach State campus
7 They circulated in Rome, once
8 Rankle
9 Meanings
10 Waken
11 Advertising campaign features
12 Jolliet's 1669 discovery
13 Time units, briefly
18 Signs of divinity
23 Willy Wonka's creator
24 Great rating
25 Dogtrot and canter, for two
26 Word with talk or time
27 Fishing craft
28 Listings of popular songs
29 Grease someone's palm
30 It could be stuffed
31 What like poles do
33 First U.S. vice president
36 Snobs
37 Dusty dry
39 "Hold the phone!"
40 "Three's Company" landlord
42 It was designed to fall
43 Shakers' partners
45 Consumer-advocate Ralph
46 Masher's comeuppance
47 Word with along, on or about
48 Capital founded by Pizarro
49 Skin cream additive, perhaps
50 Places for lowing
51 Doesn't exist
54 Beyond tipsy
55 "What's a Grecian ___?"

Yesterday's Solution

M	E	C	C	A		O	R	C	A		H	I	S	S
S	C	O	O	P		N	E	O	N		A	N	T	I
C	O	N	D	O		T	E	A	K		S	L	O	E
		T	A	L	K	O	F	T	H	E	T	O	W	N
O	D	E		L	I	P				M	A	V	E	N
R	A	M	R	O	D		U	N	D	O		E	D	A
T	Y	P	O			S	N	O	U	T	S			
	S	T	A	T	E	O	F	T	H	E	A	R	T	
			N	E	W	B	I	E			N	A	B	S
S	A	M		P	E	S	T		B	A	D	R	A	P
A	B	A	S	E				L	A	B		E	R	A
V	O	I	C	E	O	F	R	E	A	S	O	N		
A	U	T	O		L	O	U	T		O	B	E	S	E
G	N	A	T		L	O	N	G		R	O	S	I	N
E	D	I	T		A	L	T	O		B	E	S	T	S

Today in History

1880 Wabash, Ind., became the first town in the world to be illuminated by electrical lighting.

1889 French engineer Alexandre Gustave Eiffel unfurled the French tricolor from atop the Eiffel Tower, officially marking its completion.

1943 The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Oklahoma!" opened on Broadway.

1968 President Johnson stunned the country by announcing he would not seek another term in office.

2005 Terri Schiavo, 41, died at a hospice in Pinellas Park, Fla., 13 days after her feeding tube was removed in a wrenching right-to-die dispute.

Su|do|ku | © *Puzzles by Pappocom*

Degree of Difficulty: HARD

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

	9			4				
			2					9
7			1			4		8
8		1				2		
9			3		2			1
		5				6		3
2		6			7			5
3					1			
				6			2	

Yesterday's Solution

9	1	2	8	7	4	5	3	6
6	7	4	9	5	3	1	8	2
3	8	5	2	6	1	7	9	4
4	2	8	6	9	5	3	7	1
7	9	3	1	4	2	6	5	8
5	6	1	7	3	8	2	4	9
2	4	9	5	1	7	8	6	3
1	3	7	4	8	6	9	2	5
8	5	6	3	2	9	4	1	7

Can't get enough Sudoku? Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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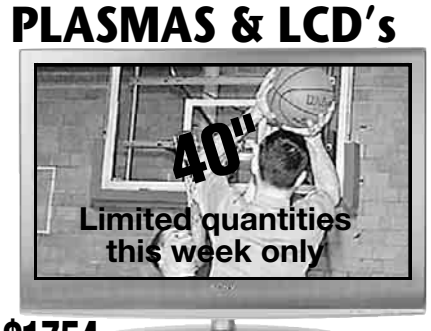

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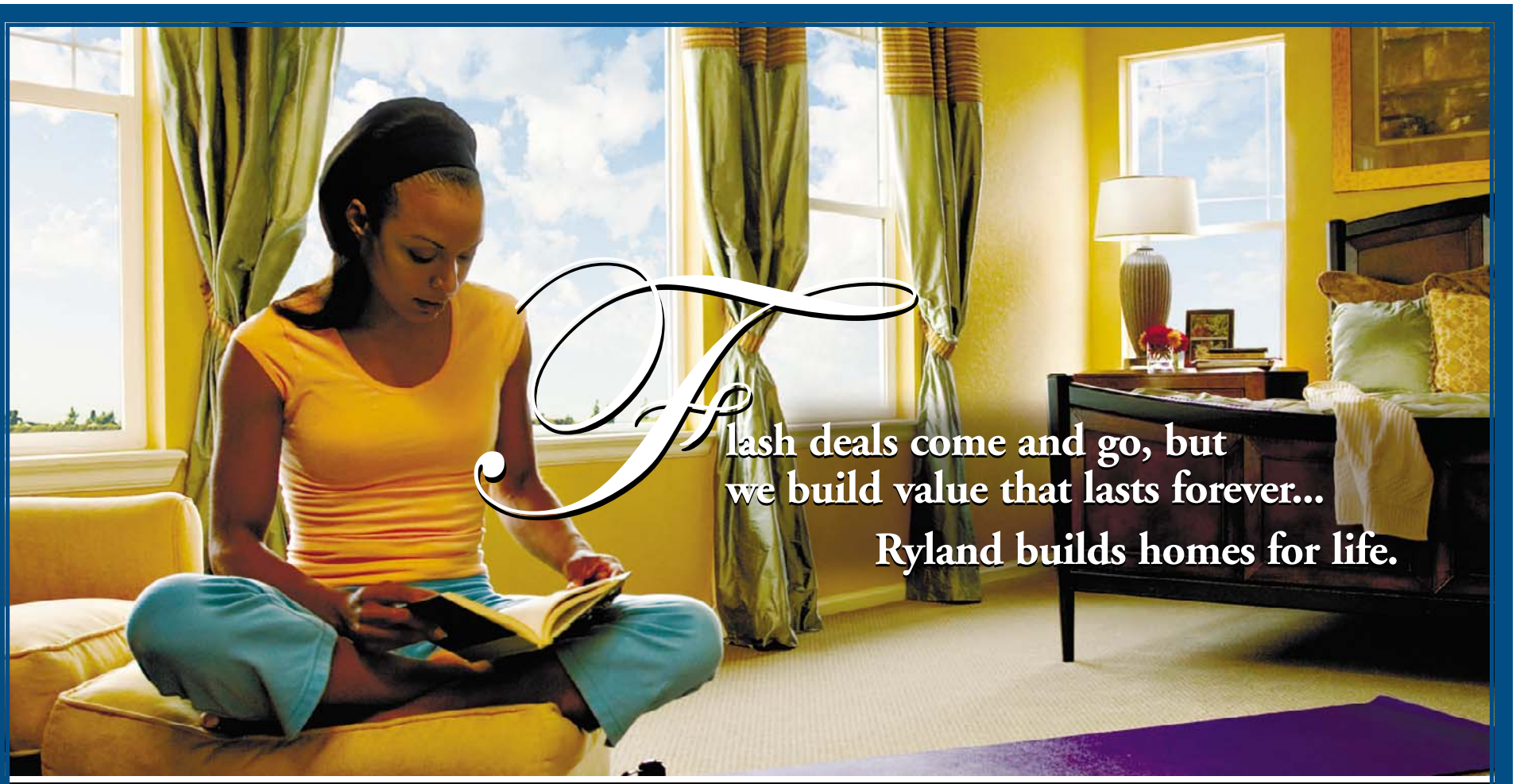

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MICHELLE REPISO/EXPRESS

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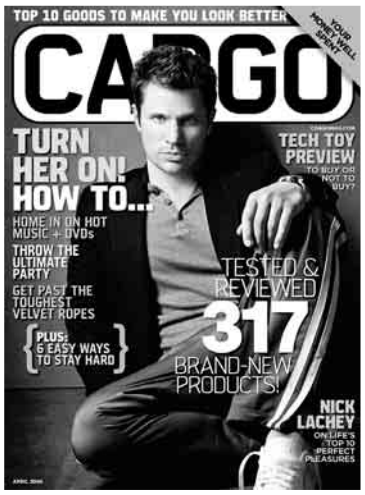


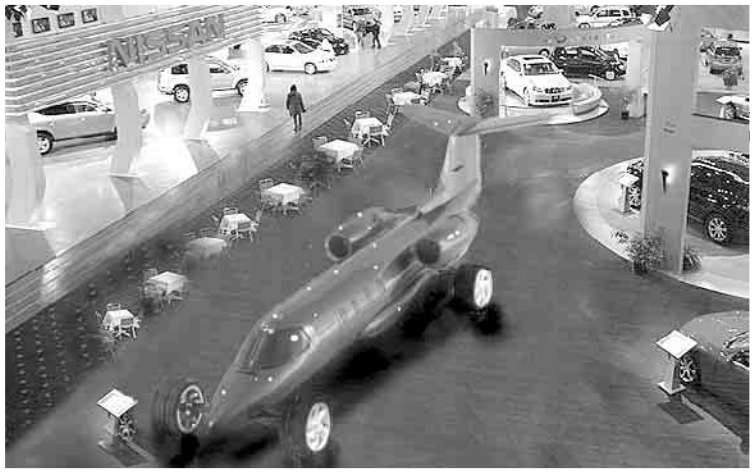
3 The Death of Metrosexualism

Man dates and guy grooming have felt a little less trendy since Monday's announcement that Cargo will publish its final issue in May. We'll all miss the gadget guides, the T-shirts of the month and the sticky tabs meant to earmark each future splurge, but most of all, we'll lament the passing of the metrosexual. At least we'll get a complementary subscription to GQ.

The game's plastic stars are like compliments from Paula — so easy to win. Sadly, the mic is a cheap fake.

5 Watch Even More American Idol

What will Ryan Seacrest not do for money? As of yet, that has not been determined — his latest venture is hosting "American Idol All Star Challenge" ($37), a DVD game bursting with clips of misguided contestants and Simon snark from show's first four seasons. Knowledge of AI minutiae helps, as does dumb luck: For many of the challenges (which include karaoke singing and busting a move), the game scores players randomly.



4 Airplanes Made Into Limos

The LimoJet, available to Chicago prom-goers via Exotic Coach, is a road-ready, flightless airplane equipped with five televisions, surround sound and a disco ball. The history-making vehicle is made by a Bend, Ore., automotive visionary named Dan Harris, whose Jetmousine company will surely relegate the stretch Hummer to the annals of embarrassing early-2000s gaffes.

2 Going Banana

The unsung tragedy of WWII: A banana shortage forced Twinkies to switch from fruity filling to the vanilla cream we know today. In honor of "King Kong," it's back for a limited time, so we can taste the Greatest Generation's snack cake.

1 K.A. Collins

KAC is back! Celebrity bloggress Kelly Ann Collins, formerly of Washington Socialites, is now taking questions and dispensing advice at kellyanncollins.com.

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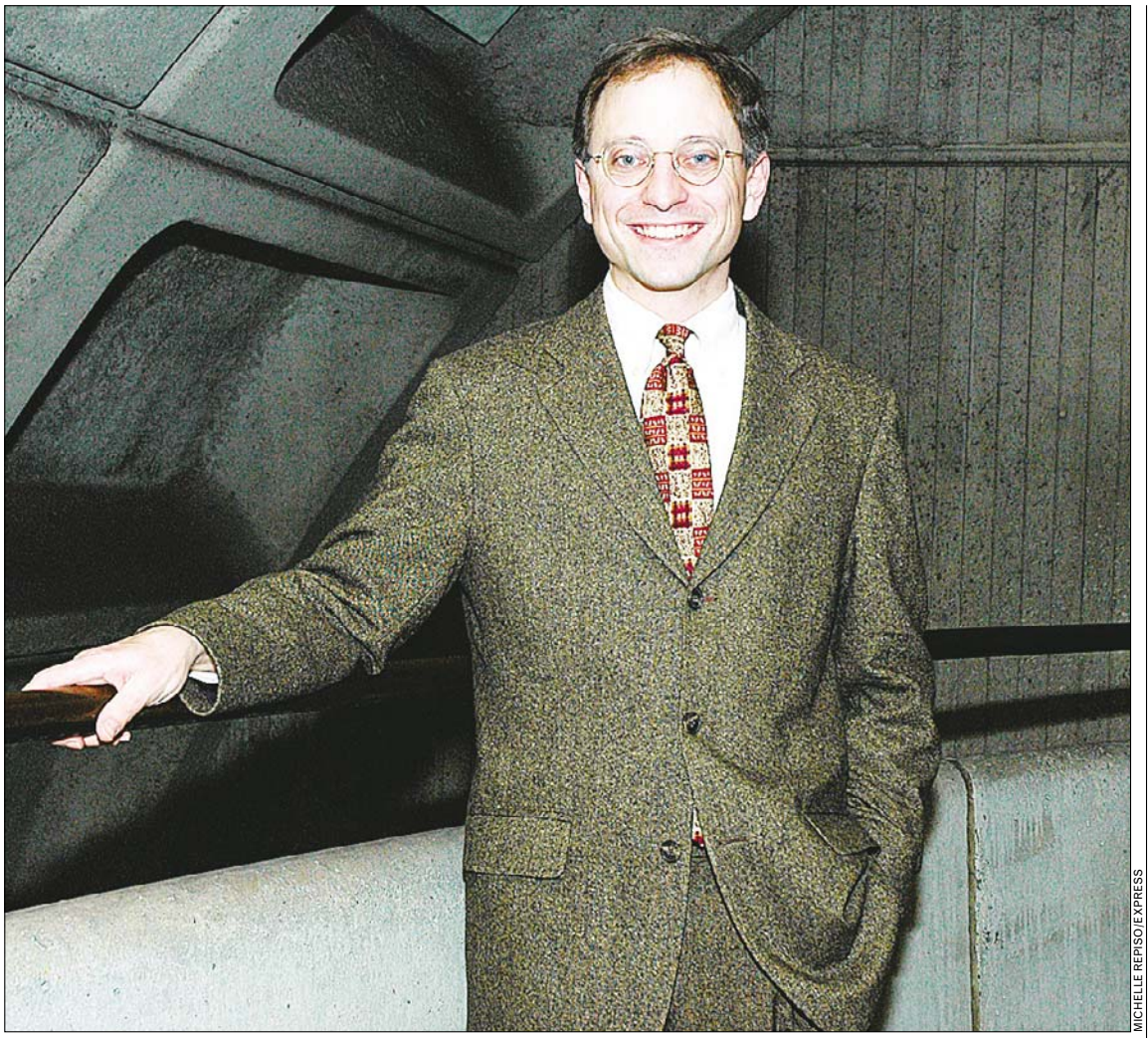
Q+A | Lookout



MICHELLE REPISO/EXPRESS

George Mason's other pride and joy doesn't play basketball — he researches every nook and cranny of the Metro system.

Station Agent

Zachary Schrag opens the doors on Metro history

IT'S EASY TO DWELL on the broken escalators and ugly orange seats, but to George Mason University history professor Zachary Schrag, D.C.'s subway system is a wonder to behold. In "The Great Society Subway: A History of the Washington Metro," he maps the development of the system from a twinkle in the eye of city planning wonks to today's 100-mile, multi-tentacled reality. Express' Vicky Hallett saw how he fared with these questions.

How did you become so interested in the Metro?
I was born in New York in 1970 and there was a subway stop on every corner. We moved to D.C. in 1977 when there was just this little stub of a Metro. I thought this was a joke. But in 1984, it finally got out to where I was living, Friendship Heights, and then the city was mine. This is an experience most American kids don't get until they're 16 and can drive. I got it two years early because of the Metro.

What surprised you the most about Metro's history?
That the Metro was affected so much by national politics. When I started this, there was no hint that I would have to go to four presidential libraries. But very early on, there were two key reports. A 1959 report said to build highways everywhere. A 1962 report said build rail everywhere. These were just three years apart and done by many of the same people. What had changed in that time? The election of JFK.

What would have happened if JFK hadn't been elected?
We might well have had a small subway line and a lot more highways. If you want to know what that would have looked like, go to Atlanta. If you can afford to drive in Atlanta, you drive. The people who take transit aren't there by choice, and they're disproportionately poor.

Contrary to the myth, you say Georgetown was never going to get a Metro stop.
Georgetown didn't want the Metro, but it didn't matter one way or the other. I talked to the three men who designed the Metro and they all told the same story. The system was for commuters and Georgetown was not a high priority, and it would have had to have been built very far underground. If Georgetown had begged for one, though, they might have gotten it. A lot of people in Washington believe that everything is done to benefit rich white people at the expense of poor black people. That's only true part of the time, not all of the time.

> "When the doors open and the light spills out — it's a moment of intense drama."

What about the Green Line taking until 1991 to open?
What interests me is that it exists at all. That it was slowed down so much was because of the activism of the neighborhoods. [Metro planners] studied whether to put the stop on Howard's campus, but the priority of the community was to rebuild the commercial strip on U Street after the riots.

Do you have a favorite Metro stop?
It may well be Dupont Circle because it's a side platform station with a mezzanine on both ends and a grand escalator. That probably gives it an edge over Judiciary Square.

What's the future of Metro?
The proposed Dulles extension is exciting. It will make Tysons pedestrian-friendly, and for Loudon, it will determine whether growth becomes classic American sprawl or turns into something more planned. Airport access is an added bonus.

What's it like for you to walk into a Metro station?
I still feel like I'm entering the future. The lighting effects of when a train is coming and that shadow appears across the vault, and when the doors open and light spills out — it's a moment of intense drama.

> The Manolo

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOEBLOGGER

I've been visiting your blog this week and I've noticed that you've been featuring lots of beautiful, but very expensive wedges. Can you recommend something for the impoverished working girl? — ERIKA

Manolo says, as the readers of the Manolo's humble shoe blog know, the Manolo has been completely entranced by the most fabulous wedges of this season, and indeed if the super fantastic girl she has $400 of the American dollars to spend, the possibilities they are endless.

Sadly, however, not all of the Manolo's readers are so flush, and with them the Manolo cannot but sympathize, for the Manolo, he knows what it is like to be poor, so poor that you must fashion your own super fantastic glittery wedge-heeled shoes out of

the shards of disco balls and broken dreams you have recovered from the dumpster behind the Studio 54.

And so the Manolo has found for his many reader friends this beautiful high-heel wedge from the Franco Sarto, which is selling for under $100 of the American dollars ($83, zappos.com). He is especially fond of the pewter metallic finish, although it is also available in the bronze, the black, and something called the "tobacco waxy calf."

On the Cover

Our lovely model wears a blouse fashioned from a thrift-store T-shirt, many more of which can be found on pages 6 and 7. Here, blue lacing spices up a simple design — and for those who have mastered the art of shoe-tying, it takes but a minute to do. The design is from the book "Generation T: 108 Ways to Transform a T-shirt" by Megan Nicolay. Scissors by Staples. Photo by Michelle Repiso.

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Sitting Pretty

File UNDER Fad

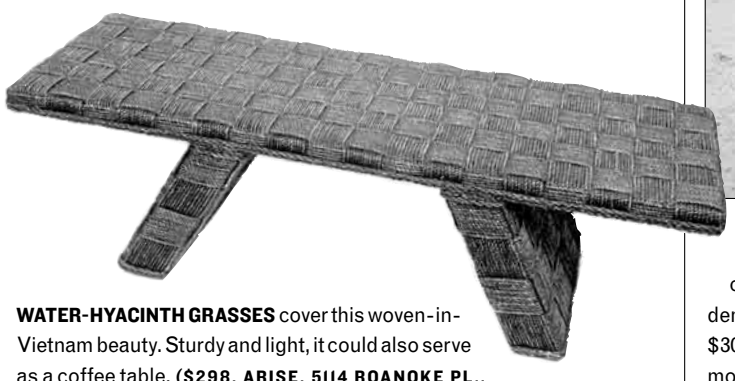
Benches are the eligible bachelors of the furniture world: If they're good-looking, you can put them just about anywhere. "They're versatile and mobile," says Jason Claire of Logan Circle decor den Vastu. "Store one under the flat-panel TV, then move it to the living room or pull it up to the dining table." And relax, current designs look way hipper than that ratty piano stool you had to sit on during holiday dinners as a kid. JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)

SEXY AND SINUOUS in a blocky way, 3Square Design's low-slung S Bench could store books, shoes or your Nats' baseball cap collection. It's sold in walnut, cherry or Swede-sweet pale maple. **($1,600, VELOCITYARTANDDESIGN.COM)**

WITH ITS STEELY GOAL-POST legs and lean cushion, Desiron's bench screams boutique hotel. It can be whipped up in any of 1,000 fabrics and leathers. **(AS SHOWN, $1,977, VASTU, 1829 14TH ST. NW; 202-234-8344)**

WEST ELM'S SLATTED WOOD-TOP seat could pass for a similar model by modernist demigod Herman Miller. Except it's roughly $300 cheaper, which'd save you enough money to throw a heck of a bench-warming party. **($299, WESTELM.COM)**

PICTURE A COUPLE OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS characters swilling mint juleps and lounging on a veranda. That's the vibe this retro, wrought-iron baby summons. It comes with khaki linen pillows to cushion tushes or, perhaps, to soak up pesky cocktail spills. **($899, WISTERIA.COM)**



WATER-HYACINTH GRASSES cover this woven-in-Vietnam beauty. Sturdy and light, it could also serve as a coffee table. **($298, ARISE, 5114 ROANOKE PL., COLLEGE PARK; 301-486-1230; ARISEDC.COM)**

Be Express'

Next Top >Model

Think you've got what it takes to grace the cover of Lookout Weekend? Send your name and a recent picture to photo@readexpress.com. You don't have to look like the typical model. Beauty of every kind and both genders is welcome. But if you have a modeling agent, you can't play. And you have to be over 18.

LOOK out | Styles

THIS RIFF ON A LAYERED SKIRT from "Generation T" starts with a band of fabric cut from the bottom of a T-shirt. Add a drawstring, then stitch the bottom edge to a swath cut from a shirt of a different color.

GIGANTIC, RANDOM corporate tees (this one's from Verizon) are a must for any thrift-store shopper. Using a pattern from "99 Ways," we cut and stitched the tent-like garment into a babydoll tank, throwing in a few pleats to keep it fitted.

CAP SLEEVES AND A BOAT NECK, top, round out the sharp edges of a typical Beefy tee. Black ties at the neck and waist add flair to the simple template from "99 Ways." Designs for longer skirts are few in these books. Adapt any mini-skirt pattern to make this long, simple skirt, bottom. Cut off the sleeves; sew one hole closed, then lace up the other.

Wear & Tear

Resurrect abandoned tees with a needle and thread

They lurk in every closet — XXL T-shirts from senior prom or a cousin's bar mitzvah or the company picnic. They're huge and they're hideous, but you can't throw them out. And that's where scissors come in handy. Three new books offer step-by-step instructions for snipping and sewing ancient tees into nouveau masterpieces. We tried out a few of the designs; turns out it's not too tough to turn T-shirt disasters into clothes you might actually wear. JULIA BEIZER

Styles | Lookout

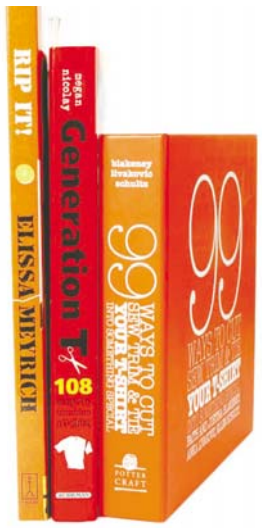
IT'S A BITTERSWEET VICTORY when the most exquisitely kitschy tee is kid-sized (and you're not). "Don't Mess With Texas" was too good to leave behind, so we used the logo as a hoodie-style pocket on a miniskirt. The blue shirt was also a children's aisle find; a gray racing stripe upsized the skirt to fit an adult. This design was adapted from "Generation T."

ADVERTISING AN ORTHODONTICS PRACTICE with the visage of a brace-faced bulldog? This questionable marketing technique was destined for the donation bin. We squeezed mileage out of this monstrosity by cutting it into a halter and cinching the waist with a drawstring on the side. "99 Ways" has all the details.

NOT YOUR AVERAGE SKIRT SUIT, this outfit is made from four tees in near-identical colors. The flouncy skirt design from "Generation T" requires stitching a ring made from the bottom of two T-shirts to the bottom of a third shirt. For the top, try the ribbon-embellished wrap-shirt recipe from "Rip It."

"GENERATION T" SERVES UP a corseted look with this nearly backless number. Snip a 10-inch U into the back of a smallish T-shirt, then add evenly spaced eyelets. Either a ribbon or a strip of fabric can serve as the laces, which should be a color that complements both the shirt and the soon-to-be exposed skin.

HOW TO DO IT



Rip It Good

After you choose the right book for your skill level, you'll need a few sewing tools and some raw materials. J.B.

→ **GENERATION T: 108 WAYS TO TRANSFORM A T-SHIRT** by Megan Nicolay (Workman, $15): This book is the most helpful of the bunch, offering practical, easy-to-follow instructions. The simple drawings will guide even the most inexperienced seamstress through every step.

→ **99 WAYS TO CUT, SEW, TRIM & TIE YOUR T-SHIRT INTO SOMETHING SPECIAL** by Faith and Justina Blakeney, Anna Livakovic and Ellen Schultz (Potter Craft, $20): The drawings and instructions in this volume are a little hard to follow, but the designs are edgier than those in "Generation T."

→ **RIP IT: HOW TO DECONSTRUCT AND RECONSTRUCT THE CLOTHES OF YOUR DREAMS** by Elissa Meyrich (Fireside, $15): This volume seems aimed at more advanced stitchers, with instructions on reusing not just T-shirts, but jeans, khakis and other cast-offs. Bonus: Tips on fitting too-big T-shirts to your body, adding trims and hemming pants into shorts.

→ **MATERIALS:** We found our shirts at Georgia Avenue Thrift Store (101 Georgia Ave. NW; 202-291-4013). Ribbons are from Bruce Variety (6922 Arlington Rd., Bethesda; 301-656-7543). Drop by a fabric store for scissors, a tape measure, tailor's chalk (optional), pins, needles and thread.

>WhereTo...

IN SEARCH OF THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO DO, BUT DON'T KNOW ABOUT YET

... Watch

Cherry Blossom Anime Marathon. The fourth annual event features both new and classic anime films like "My Neighbor Totoro" (11 a.m.), "Steamboy" (1:30 p.m.), "Howl's Moving Castle" (4 p.m.) and "Akira" (7 p.m.). Freer's Meyer Auditorium, 12th St. and Jefferson Dr. SW; All day Saturday; 202-633-4880; asia.si.edu. (Smithsonian)

"Steamboy" heats up the Freer Gallery.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill. Broadway chanteuse Lynn Sterling stars as blues queen Billie Holiday in this bio-musical. Arena Stage, 1101 6th St. SW; Fri. through June 4, $50-$55; 202-488-3300; arenastage.org.

Merce Cunningham Dance Company. In its newest performance, "Views on Stage," the legendary modern dance troupe mixes artistry and technology with classical movement. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Fri. and Sat., 8 p.m., $21-$50; 202-467-4600; kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom)

Mikio Naruse. A retrospective of the Japanese director's work screens 30 plus films from the silent era to the '60s. Samurai flick "A Tale of Archers at the Sanjusangendo" plays at 7 p.m. Friday. Freer Gallery, 12th St. and Independence Ave. SW; Through April 29, free; 202-357-2700; asia.si.edu/naruse. (Smithsonian)

The PlayGround. Daniel Burkholder twists classics into new works. Dance Place, 3225 8th St. NE; Sat., 8 p.m. and Sun., 7 p.m., $7-$20; 202-269-1600; danceplace.org. (Brookland/CUA)

Washington National Opera. WNO does Donizetti's comic "L'Elisir d'Amore." In Italian with English super titles. Kennedy Center Opera House, 2700 F St. NW; Sat. through April 17, $45-$290; 202-467-4600; kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom)

JONATHAN NEWTON/TWP

George Mason fans express excitement as they watch GMU upset UConn.

... SUPPORT YOUR TEAM

GMU: Hoops Plus

Washington's in an uproar due to George Mason's unexpected ride to the Final Four. Catch the fever at one of the many local bars broadcasting the big game Saturday, or show your support for the school in other ways. **ARLINGTON CINEMA 'N' DRAFTHOUSE** will show the game on its mammoth screen; there'll be live music, too. (2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington; doors open at 4:30 p.m., $10; 703-486-2345; arlingtondrafthouse.com.) If you're not a sports fan, there's the annual **GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY DANCE COMPANY GALA.** (GMU Center for the Arts, 4400 University Dr., Fairfax; Fri. and Sat., 8 p.m., $20; 888-945-2468; gmu.edu/cfa.) Experience the days of George Mason, the patriot himself, when British raiders plunder a Virginia plantation during this **REVOLUTIONARY WAR REENACTMENT.** (Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Rd., Lorton; Sat. and Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., $8, free for kids; 703-550-9220; gunstonhall.org.) Go Patriots!

... Listen

Average White Band. The R&B group mixes the soulful sounds of 1960s Memphis, Detroit and Philadelphia. Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria; Fri. and Sat., 7:30 p.m., $27.50; 703-549-7500; birchmere.com.

AVERAGE WHITE BAND

Average White Band mixes R&B, soul and funk.

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. "What Dreams Are Made Of" presents works inspired by mythological creatures, such as Stravinsky's "Firebird." Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda; Fri., 8 p.m., $21-$80; 301-581-5100; strathmore.org. (Grosvenor)

Middle Distance Runner. The D.C.-based alt-rock band headlines, with the Gaskets and the Cinematic Underground opening. Iota, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; Fri., 9:30 p.m., $10; 703-522-8340; iotaclubandcafe.com. (Clarendon)

Roni Size. Catch a set from the British electronica mixmaster, one of the biggest names in drum 'n' bass. Opening are Marky and MC Armanni. 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; Sat., 11 p.m., $25, $20 in advance; 703-218-6500; 930.com. (U St.-Cardozo)

... Cook

All About Olive Oil. Learn how to tell the difference between EV and cold-pressed both at the grocery store and in your kitchen. Then learn how to whip up dishes like Greek olive oil cake. Sur La Table, 1101 S. Joyce Street, #B-20, Arlington; Sun., 2 p.m., $75; 703-414-3580; surlatable.com. (Pentagon City)

Cocktails 101: Trendy and Exciting Mixed Drinks. Learn how to shake up the latest highballs — from Blood Orange Cosmos to Espresso Martinis — at this demonstration with drink samples and appetizers. Cloud Dining Lounge, 1 Dupont Circle NW; Thu., 7 p.m., $50; 202-244-3700; tastedc.com. (Dupont Circle)

Laboratorio del Galileo. Chef Roberto Donna reveals the secrets of cooking Cornish hens. Never fear, lunch and vino come with. Galileo, 1110 21st St. NW; Sat., 10:30 a.m., $100; 202-293-7191; galileodc.com. (Foggy Bottom)

RICH LIPSKI/TWP

Fireworks and cherry blossoms. Mmm.

... Gaze

Hiroshi Sugimoto: History of History. You can see his photography over at the Hirshhorn; here, visit items from the artists' personal collection of antiques and artwork, including Noh masks, 8th-century sculpture, textiles and fossils. Sackler Gallery of Art, 1050 Independence Ave. SW; Sat. through July 30, free; 202-633-4880; asia.si.edu. (Smithsonian)

National Cherry Blossom Festival Fireworks. This explosive annual event, which starts at 8:15 p.m. on Saturday, is best viewed from the Southwest Waterfront Promenade at 700 Water St. SW. The Musical Prelude (which includes food, drink and kids' activities) starts at 5 p.m. nationalcherryblossomfestival.org. (Waterfront-SEU)

White House Spring Garden Tour. The annual tradition invites the public to view the Jacqueline Kennedy, Rose and Children's gardens, plus the South Lawn. Free tickets are required; pick them up the day of your tour at the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion, 15th and E streets NW. Sat., 10 a.m. and Sun. 12 p.m.; 202-208-1631. (Metro Center or Federal Triangle)

... Learn

20TH CENTURY FOX

Learn to solve a problem like Maria.

Baseball Preview. Just before opening day, catch a slugger-themed reading — with pizza and beer — as Clay Davenport talks about "Baseball Between the Numbers" and Steve Goldman and Christine Karl discuss "Baseball Prospectus 2006." Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW; Sat., 6 p.m., free; 202-364-1919; politics-prose.com.

Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House. Take an in-depth tour of the area's only FLW house-turned-museum. 9000 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria; Sun., 8:30 a.m., $25, reservations required; 703-780-4000; popeleighey1940.org.

Sarah Arvio and Malena Morling. In honor of National Poetry Month (of course you knew it was April?), two local poets read selections from their new collections. Chapters, 445 11th St. NW; Sat., 5 p.m., free; 202-737-5553; chaptersliterary.com. (Metro Center)

Sound of Music: Fact vs. Fiction. Is the musical based on the von Trapps real or made up? Speakers fill us in. National Museum of American History, 14th & Constitution Ave. NW; Sun., 1 p.m., $18; 202-252-0012; americanhistory.si.edu. (Smithsonian)

Forget the stock market. This is much bigger!

New opportunity in $1.9 trillion currency market can help you recover your stock market losses

"With the help of my software to track it, the currency market is an incredible opportunity for you to achieve extraordinary returns 24 hours a day."

Blake Morrow — President, 4X Made Easy, LP

If you think today's hottest investment is found on Wall Street, then read on, because I'm about to blow your mind!

Recent federal rule changes have opened the foreign currency market — formerly reserved for banks, corporations, and high net worth individuals — to independent investors just like you, some of whom have already made tens of thousands of dollars!

World's largest market
I know this will surprise you, but the foreign currency market, or (spot) FOREX, has become the largest trading market in the world! And with $1.9 trillion or more traded every single day (source: *Financial Times*, Sept. 29, 2004), it dwarfs the volume of the Wall Street exchanges — even when you lump them together! That volume creates movement, and movement creates profit opportunities for you!

Much simpler and easier than stocks
Not only is it bigger than the stock market, it's a lot friendlier. If you are a stock market investor, you have a whopping 40,000 stocks and mutual funds to choose from. *No wonder traditional investing has become so intimidating!*

> ***"The foreign exchange market remains by far the world's biggest financial market by trading volume, with turnover far greater than equity or bond markets."***
> ***— Financial Times***

But here's the good news: In the (spot) FOREX market — a market not influenced by corporate corruption — you only need only to follow six major currencies. Wouldn't you rather look at six proven investment options than research 40,000 potential ones? Yeah, me too.

You are witnessing history — don't miss being part of it
Imagine if you could turn back time to the start of the NASDAQ and invest in the NASDAQ at the very beginning with the knowledge you have now. How much would your portfolio be worth?

Life doesn't offer many second chances, but THIS IS ONE OF THEM. Sweeping changes in U.S. federal rules have opened this market to individual investors like you — creating perhaps the biggest opportunity since the start of the NASDAQ!

There will never be another first time to be a part of the (spot) FOREX
Come hear about the profits possible in the (spot) FOREX market now — BEFORE EVERYONE ELSE CRASHES THE PARTY! Now that the federal rulings have changed, it won't remain a secret forever!

Don't let this opportunity pass you by. You have a special chance to *get in early on what could be the biggest, most exciting investing opportunity of the 2000s!*

Introducing 4X Made Easy®
I'm Blake Morrow, President of 4X Made Easy, LP. The 4X Made Easy® system is user-friendly software and personal ongoing training that allows you to learn about and interpret trends on the (spot) FOREX. And when you can project these trends, amazing profits are possible.

Should a rise or decline in a particular currency be apparent, 4X Made Easy® will reveal its path and position you to capitalize on the opportunity. Rest assured, you can make money as currencies rise or fall against each other. In fact, it's this very movement — driven by the global forces of supply and demand — that creates your profit potential.

This simple-to-use system lights your way
With 4X Made Easy® as your navigator, tracking currency movement is easier than you could ever imagine. The 4X Made Easy® point-and-click trading system literally lights the path of supply and demand for currencies. Red and green arrows point in the direction currencies have been moving — giving you the vital market information you need to instantly make intelligent trading decisions with confidence.

Even Chrysler and Mercedes are doing it
The (spot) FOREX is new to most personal investors, but not to Detroit's mighty Big Three. In fact, DaimlerChrysler, the parent company of Chrysler and Mercedes, has revealed that it made more money trading currency than it did selling cars. In the second quarter of 2003, the majority of DaimlerChrysler's $1 billion in profits came from currency trades in the (spot) FOREX market.

Was DaimlerChrysler being reckless with its shareholders' money? Not at all! Certainly there is risk in the foreign currency market, as there is in all markets. But putting money in the (spot) FOREX gave them ***higher returns than ANY bank.*** If you'd like to see how individuals like you are getting the same kind of monster financial windfalls as DaimlerChrysler, attend one of my FREE eye-opening workshops in your town.

Get ready for the (spot) FOREX
With only six major currencies to follow, and **a market that's open 6 days a week, 24 hours a day (4 days)**, you just won't find a simpler, more flexible way to put money in your pocket.

The cleanly traded (spot) FOREX has an investing innocence not found in its equity market cousins. Its currency fluctuations are a result of pure market movement, not corporate corruption or Wall Street dishonesty. Come see the pure, unaltered fluctuations — and the incredible profit opportunities they present — of these six major foreign currencies alongside the U.S. Dollar:

- Australian Dollar
- Japanese Yen
- Canadian Dollar
- British Pound
- Euro Dollar
- Swiss Franc

What is the (spot) FOREX?

(spot) FOREX — This is the acronym for the foreign exchange market, where one country's currency can be exchanged for that of another. The term "spot" simply refers to the activity of trading one country's currency against another (such as the U.S. Dollar against the British Pound, Swiss Franc, Japanese Yen, etc.).

What 4X Made Easy® users are saying:

"In my 20 trades so far, I'm up about $10,000."
— Jerry Watson, KS

"I made over $7,000 in my first three weeks!"
— Larry Wenner, TX

"I can do a week's salary in a day. In one morning, I made what was three weeks' salary at my old job."
— Donald Schmalz, FL

"It's about freedom and control. It's about control of my financial future. The Internet allows guys like us to do this."
— Rob McCarthy, AZ

"It's unbelievable returns compared to... the stock market."
— Mark and Diane Piller, TX

FIVE KEY ADVANTAGES OF THE (spot) FOREX MARKET

1 TREMENDOUS SIMPLICITY: You track just six major currencies with 4X Made Easy®.

2 ENORMOUS LIQUIDITY: Move your money in or out quickly.

3 HUGE GROWTH POTENTIAL: You can get incredible leverage on your money of 100-to-one and even 200-to-one!

4 AVAILABILITY: In a market that's open 6 days a week, 24 hours a day (4 days), you trade on your time, your schedule.

5 UNMATCHED OPPORTUNITY: Your profit potential is unparalleled when you trade the world's largest market.

COMPARE (spot) FOREX TO THE STOCK MARKET

(spot) FOREX	STOCK MARKET
World's single largest market	Smaller volume means smaller opportunity
Trade Sunday through Friday	Trade only Monday through Friday
Trade 24 hours a day (4 days)	Trade 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Free of corporate scandal	Plagued by corporate scandal
HUGE leverage of 100-1	Leverage of 2-1

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

- Stock investors
- Mutual fund investors
- Active or part-time traders
- Options traders
- Business people
- Entrepreneurs
- Couples
- Retirees
- Those who want to diversify
- Individuals who have been burned by Wall Street

Attend my FREE, two-hour, educational workshop and live demonstration of 4X Made Easy® where you'll:

- Witness the *monstrous profit possibilities* of the (spot) FOREX market
- Find out how easy it is to track currency fluctuations
- See how trading currencies can dramatically diversify risk in your financial portfolio
- Watch the ease of following six major currencies with 4X Made Easy®
- Discover how you can get started trading the (spot) FOREX
- See when to get in and out of your currency trades

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FREE ADMISSION!

4X Made Easy®

4XMFSMBFP - Washington WK14

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FREE TICKET!

Washington Area

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BETHESDA HYATT REGENCY
7400 Wisconsin Avenue • Bethesda

Monday, April 3, 2006 • 1 p.m. or 7 p.m.
SPRINGFIELD HILTON
6550 Loisdale Road • Springfield

Tuesday, April 4, 2006 • 1 p.m. or 7 p.m.
RESTON SHERATON
11810 Sunrise Valley Drive • Reston

Wednesday, April 5, 2006 • 9 a.m. or 1 p.m.
McLEAN TYSON'S CORNER HILTON
7920 Jones Branch Drive • McLean

admit two

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Please Arrive Early
Complimentary Admission

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B.I.O.

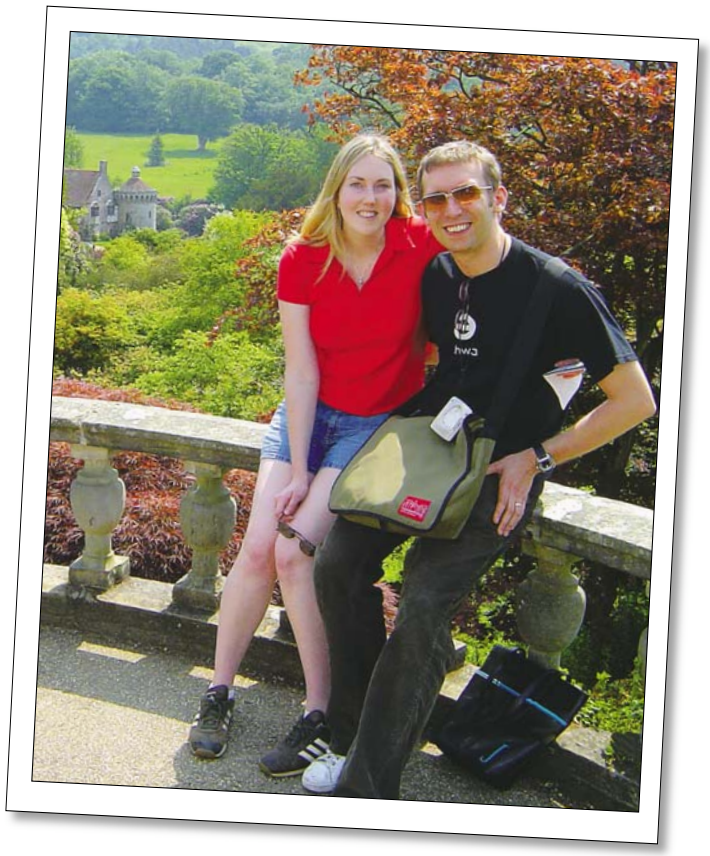
BY INVITATION ONLY: UPCOMING WEDDINGS

Stacey Sevigny, John Zellers

Stacey, 30, is a federal law enforcement officer with the Department of Homeland Security. John, 31, is a site security supervisor for Vance Security. They live in Centreville.

WEDDING: An early-evening civil service in Fairfax, followed by a sit-down dinner, on June 3. They're expecting about 100 guests.
HONEYMOON: Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.
HOW THEY MET: In prison. "We both worked there."
FIRST IMPRESSIONS: Stacey "thought he was good looking, but he was a smoker."
MEETING THE PARENTS: John met Stacey's folks on their first date; she met his on their second.
STUPIDEST FIGHT: John was making Stacey a fried egg, and she likes the yolk broken. "He wasn't breaking the yolk yet, so I came in and broke it. Then he told me to cook it myself."
THEIR SONG: "Bless the Broken Road" by Rascal Flatts. "We both have been through unsuccessful relationships in our lives and finally our roads crossed."
MMM, CAKE: White cake with raspberry and chocolate filling.

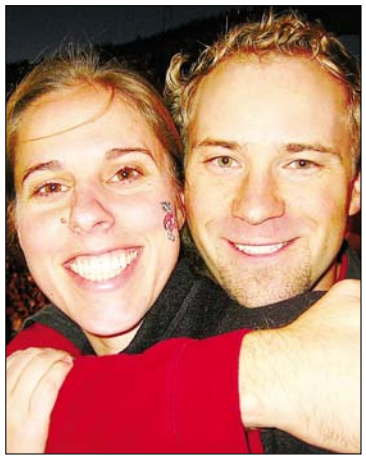
> "We both have been through unsuccessful relationships ... and finally our roads crossed."



Love Hops the Pond

Sometimes subtlety works. Not for **HOLLY STANTON**, who "made elaborate plans" to convey her interest to Englishman **JIM BEARDOW** after he started working in her office. "All of these failed," she said. So she asked him out point-blank. "If she hadn't said anything, I would probably still be wandering D.C. with my well-practiced 'confused of England' look on my face," said Jim. His Brit background helped him propose, however. Before he visited his folks in England, Holly asked for some Kinder Surprise candy — chocolate eggs with toys inside that she'd only seen in Europe. When Jim returned, "I opened the egg, and inside was a note on pink paper that said, 'Marry me, peanut.'" The two will wed in a 13th-century church in Jim's hometown of Old Heathfield, but with some American twists: Bridesmaids will enter the church before the bride (in England, it's usually the reverse), and the cake will be chocolate instead of the traditional fruitcake.

Jim, 31, is an external relations officer at the International Monetary Fund. Holly, 26, is an event coordinator for Linden Educational Services. They live in Alexandria and will marry on July 1.



Jason Bellows, Jennifer Whitfield

Jason, 30, is an emergency medicine physician at Georgetown University Hospital/Washington Hospital Center. Jennifer, 30, is an emergency medicine resident at George Washington University. They live in Washington.

WEDDING: A semi-formal ceremony and reception in Madison, Wis., for 175 guests on May 27.
HOW THEY MET: Jen was doing a rotation at G.W.U. Hospital, where Jason was a resident. "I mentioned that I was going to live in Guatemala for a year," said Jen. "Jason asked me, 'What does your boyfriend think of that?' I said, 'Boyfriend? What do I want one of those for?' Evidently this scared him off for a bit."
FIRST DATE: Drinks and sushi at Cafe Japone in Dupont Circle.
HOW HE PROPOSED: On a weekend trip to New York City. Jason had the ring in his bag, waiting for the right moment, which turned out to be sunset in Union Square.
FAMILY TRADITIONS: "We will have local Wisconsin beer at the reception, and the wine is from a small winery in upstate New York, near where Jason grew up. Also, all Wisconsin weddings include a polka. No exceptions."

> "Jason tried to get me to sing Madonna, but there are certain things I don't do on a first date."

David Potts, Maurisa Turner

David, 37, is a management consultant for Booz|Allen|Hamilton. Maurisa, 32, is a marketing director for Wickwire Gavin, P.C. They live in Alexandria.

WEDDING: May 12. The Friday evening ceremony will be followed by a cocktail reception. They expect 125 guests.
HOW THEY MET: Maurisa worked in her mom's office during summer breaks from Virginia Tech. David also worked with her mom. "My mother takes credit for hooking us up," said Maurisa.
FIRST DATE: In 1995. "Maurisa went with her mom and me to a coworker's party. Maurisa was actually doing me a favor that day ... there was going to be another girl at the party whom I was trying to avoid."
HOW HE PROPOSED: In Hawaii, on the island of Lanai. They were taking a walk, when suddenly Maurisa found David on one knee. "Since it was dark outside, I thought he was hurt and asked if he was OK!"
MOST HATED CLOTHING ITEM: For Maurisa, it's "the boxers he sleeps in. They have holes all through them ... I threaten that his boxers will be lost in the wash one day.
THEIR SONG: "At Last" by Etta James. "It seems appropriate given the length of time we've been dating."
WHEN IT HIT: "We have been the 'Oprah and Stedman' couple for so long that it hasn't really hit me this day is finally coming," said Maurisa.
PROCESSIONAL: "Come Away With Me" by Norah Jones.

Getting Married? If you'd like to see your wedding or commitment ceremony in B.I.O., send your favorite informal photo (wacky is fine, but please don't send a formal engagement shot), plus your names, contact info and the ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. We'll contact you with some questions as your big day approaches. Our space is limited, but we'll do our best to include as many as we can.

Samurai SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: WELTERWEIGHT

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Last Week's Solution

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How to Play

The rules of Samurai Sudoku are the same as in the popular Sudoku puzzles that appear in Express and The Washington Post.

As with standard Sudoku, the Samurai version requires no math, just logic, reasoning ... and an iron will. The goal is to fill in each column, row and 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9 without repeating any. The twist in Samurai Sudoku is that the digits that appear in the overlapping boxes must work for both puzzles.

A piece of advice to get you started: Don't focus on completing one grid at a time. Keep the whole puzzle in mind as you go, because filling in a number in one grid could give you clues to another. As always, there's only one solution, which will appear in next week's edition of LookOut Weekend.

Can't get enough Sudoku? Find a standard Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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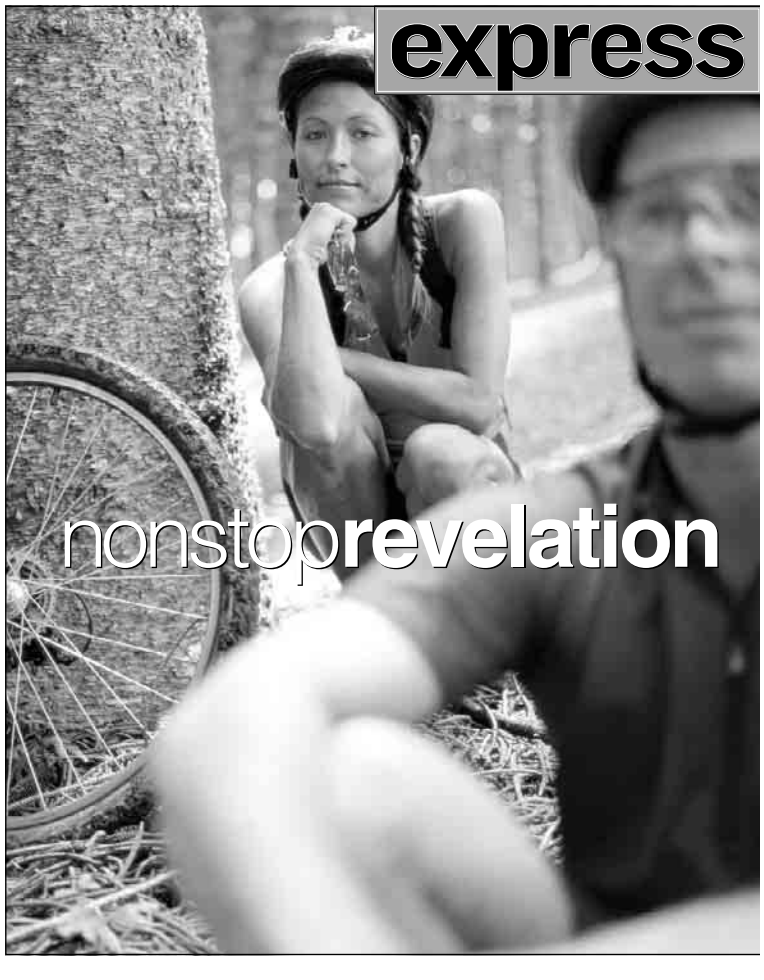

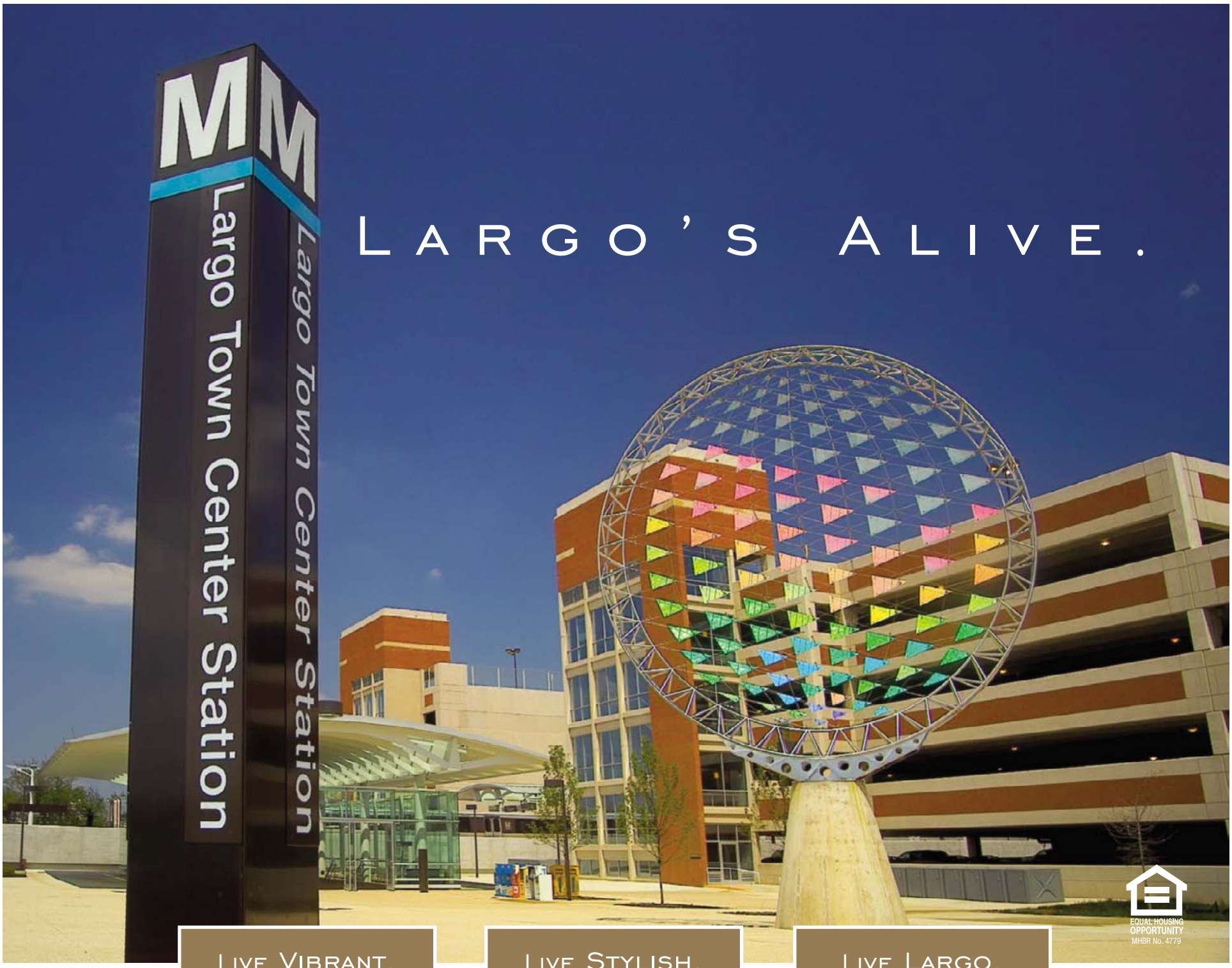

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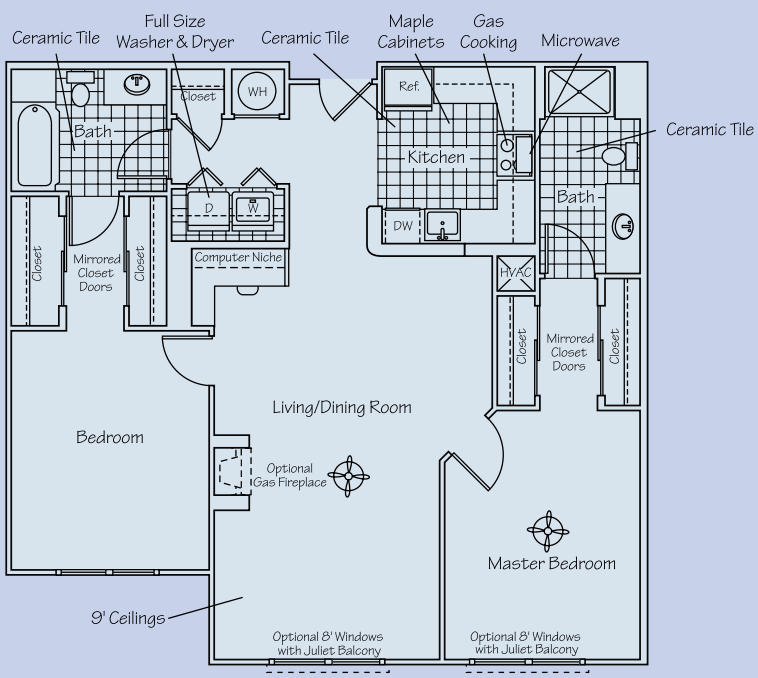

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Tiny Space, Big Style: Hanging lights, weensy tables, a bed-cum-dresser and other space-saving designs | E7

Northwest Passage: Columbia Heights morphs into a hot hood with mod condos and soon-to-arrive shops | E16

Deposit Desperados: Hawking family jewels or hitting up Mom and Dad for a down payment | E31

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Homing in On a Change

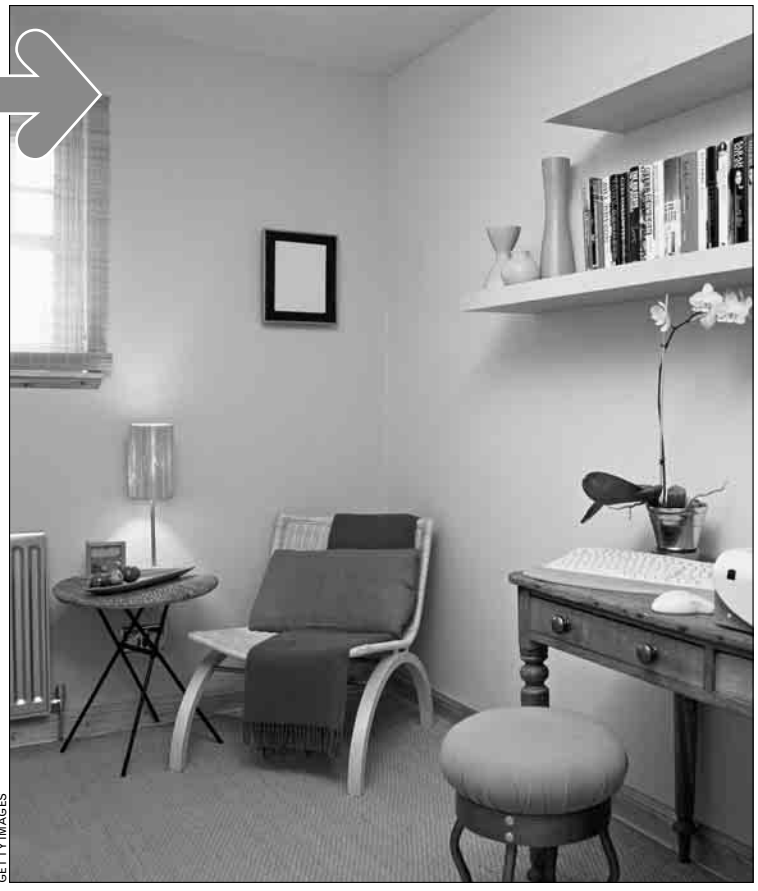
TRANSFORMING YOUR LIVING SPACE could mean buying a new condo, remodeling a decades-old flat or snapping up that 1960s white leather sofa for your living room.

Changing a section of Express, in this case the Condo Living insert you're holding, is a similar undertaking. To make this monthly guide more useful and appealing to condo dwellers, shoppers and the real-estate obsessed, we're adding several regular features.

In one, we profile an up-and-coming neighborhood, zeroing in on both hot properties and the bars, shops and attractions that surround them. This month, the story's all about Columbia Heights, where a fiery real-estate market is powering an explosion of retail development, yet the corner taco shops and dive bars still beckon.

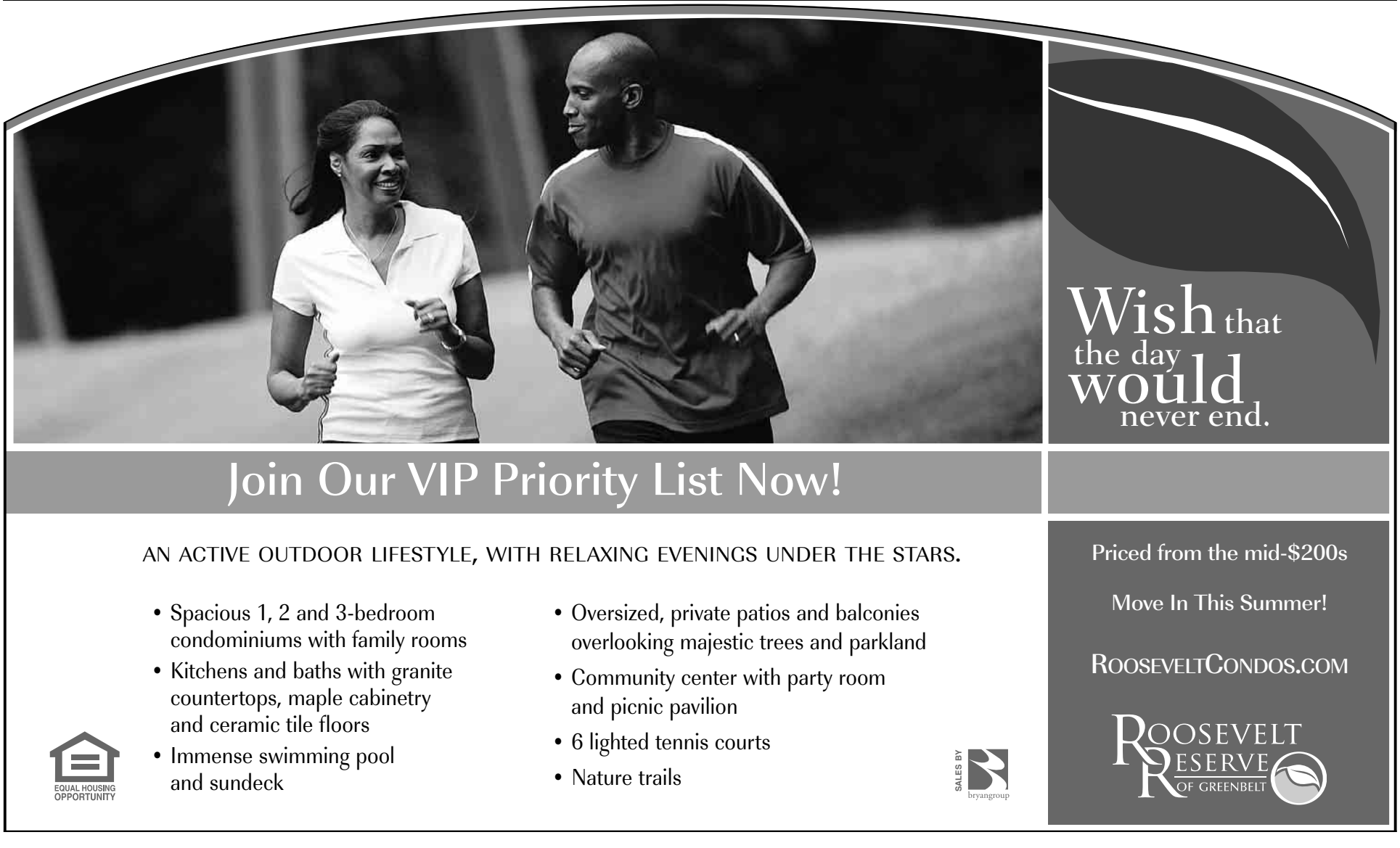
In Apartment 3-D, we address specific design or remodeling issues by showing off new products and concepts. Think oversized decor for gargantuan lofts or new materials for redoing your kitchen. (Note: stainless steel appliances, so over!) This month, we focus on space-saving furniture and accessories fit for a wee 400-square-foot studio. Ideas range from a bed that conceals dresser drawers to a table so tiny it'll just hold a single martini.

Moving on up: Bare walls, depressing. HGTV-esque decor, much better.



GETTY IMAGES

In the spirit of sharing ideas about what makes an apartment a home, we're also asking you, our readers, to send in photos of how you've decorated your quarters. Whether you're an owner or a renter, whether you live in a country French flat or a punk-rock loft, we'd love to see what you've done. (Townhomes qualify, but detached single-family homes do not — sorry!) Send your digital images to photo@readexpress.com, and enter "my rad pad" in the subject line. THE EDITORS



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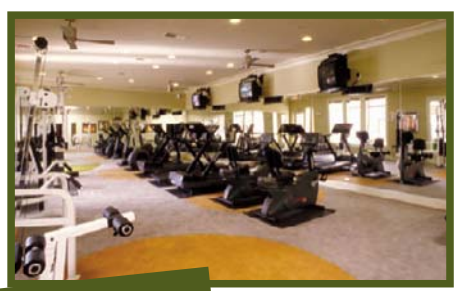

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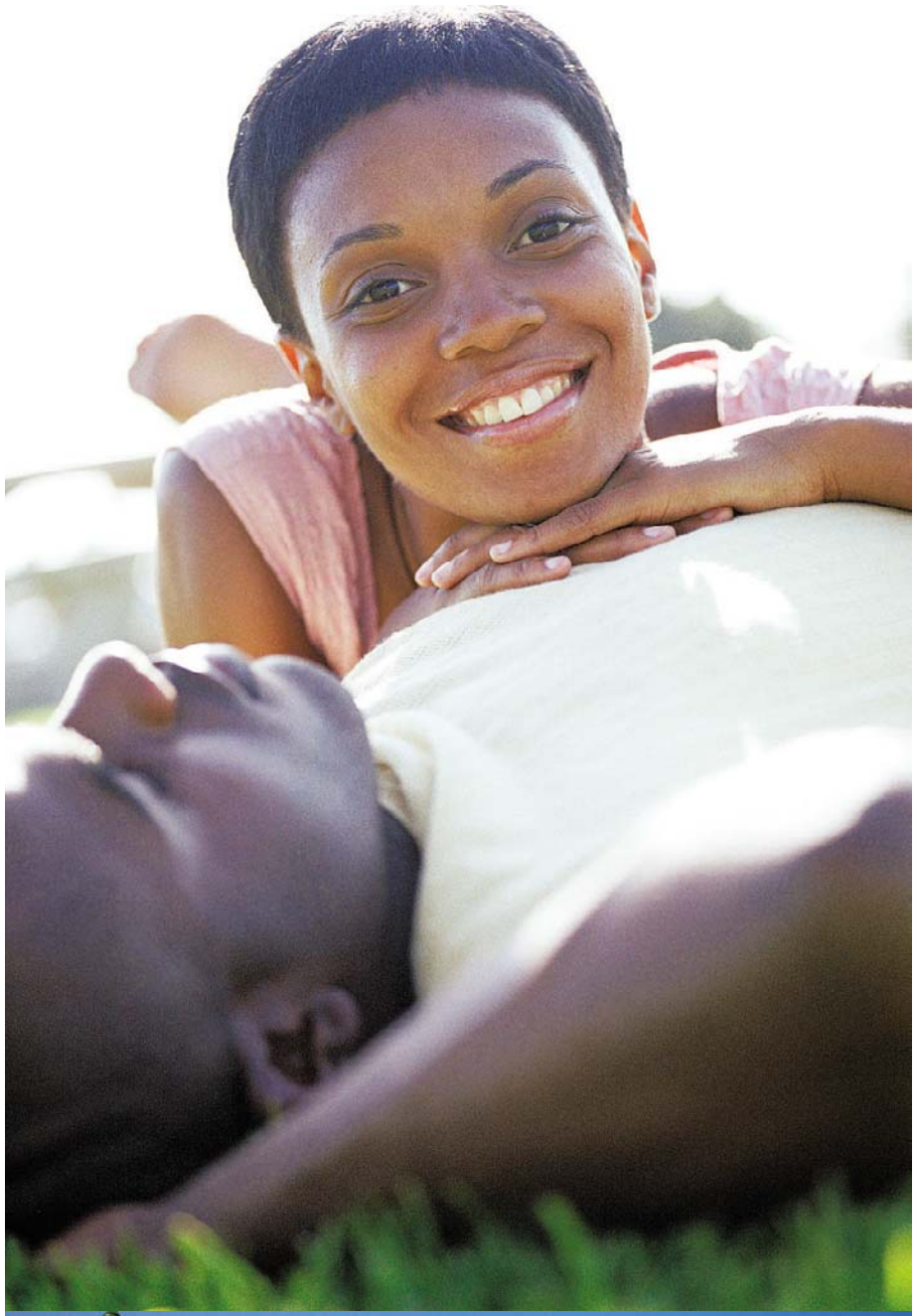

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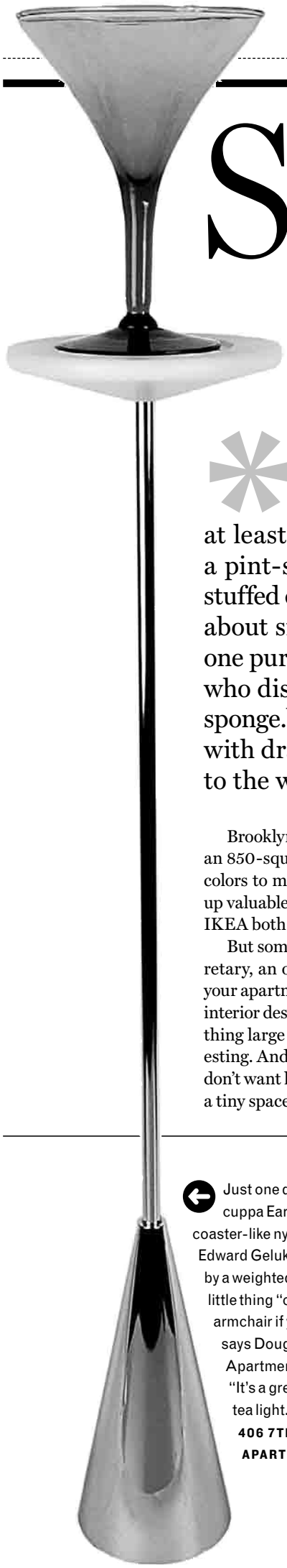


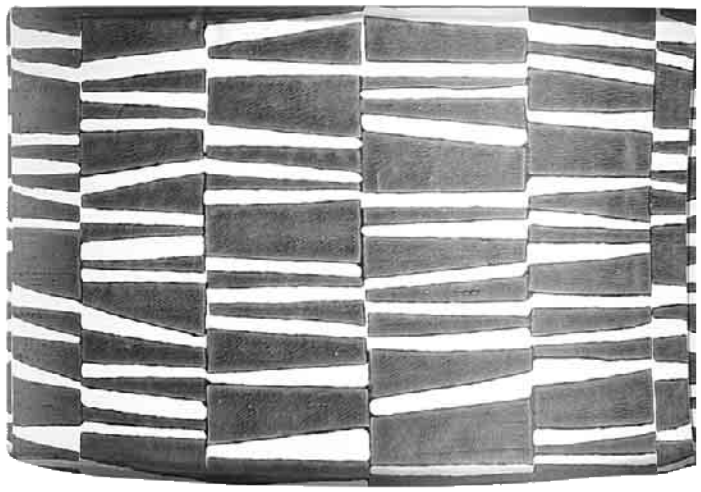
Space Shavers

Apartment 3-D

Though real-estate prognosticators tell us that U.S. house sizes keep getting bigger, it often seems like condos — affordable D.C. ones, at least — are getting smaller. So how do you furnish a pint-sized pad without making it look like an over-stuffed dorm room or a crammed storage unit? "It's really about simplifying, using furniture that has more than one purpose," says Grace Bonney, a.k.a. Design Sponge, who dishes on decor trends in her popular blog (design sponge.blogspot.com). Multi-use pieces range from beds with drawers in their bases to foldout tables that attach to the wall like retro Murphy beds.

Brooklyn-based Bonney, who just moved from a 450-square-foot apartment into an 850-square-foot railroad flat, also recommends painting walls in warm neutral colors to make rooms look bigger, hanging pendant lamps from the ceiling to free up valuable floor real estate and seeking smaller-sized furniture (Pottery Barn and IKEA both produce many apartment-scale merch).

But sometimes, using an oversized, "statement" piece (a towering Victorian secretary, an oversized abstract painting) can add visual spice. "When everything in your apartment is small, you really don't have a focal point," says Kim Hessler, a D.C. interior designer and owner of Logan Circle's Dragonfly Design Decor. "Using something large — like a Chinese apothecary cabinet with lots of drawers — looks interesting. And a large piece can hold a lot of things, like towels or a computer, that you don't want lying around." Here are some products both great and small that'll make a tiny space chic. JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)



"When you move lights to the ceiling, it makes a big difference in your space," says design blogger Grace Bonney. Block-printed silk in a tobacco brown, Afro-cool pattern covers this in-again drum shade pendant light by Philly-based designers Galbraith and Paul. It'd look groovy over a shiny white dining table. **($380, VIVI, 7254 WOODMONT AVE., BETHESDA; 301-656-5626; VIVIONLINE.COM)**

"Chinese furniture was created to be multi-functional," says Kim Hessler of Dragonfly Design Decor. So it's not surprising that she sells lots of 18th- and 19th-century armoires to use as bathroom-towel holders, computer stashers, sweater keepers and, of course, homes for the TV. This one, though sold, is similar to examples that arrived in a recent shipment. **($1,600 TO $2,250, DRAGONFLY DESIGN DECOR, 1457 CHURCH ST. NW; 202-265-3359)**

Just one drink, be it a Cosmo or a cuppa Earl Grey, is all that'll fit on the coaster-like nylon top of Dutch designer Edward Geluk's "Xes" table. Supported by a weighted chrome base, this skinny little thing "can tuck next to a sofa or an armchair if you don't have much space," says Douglas Burton, co-owner of Apartment Zero, which sells them. "It's a great spot for a martini, or even a tea light." **($370, APARTMENT ZERO, 406 7TH ST. NW; 202-628-4067; APARTMENTZERO.COM)**

A blue steel base and wood veneer top lend Blu Dot's Barbarella Table some hard-edged, late-1960s flash. But it's the clever stash-space in the base that makes it appeal to design blogger Grace Bonney. "For a packrat and certified magazine hoarder like me, this is perfect. You can hide everything from newspapers to coasters in it before company arrives." **($329, DESIGNPUBLIC.COM)**

CONDOLiving

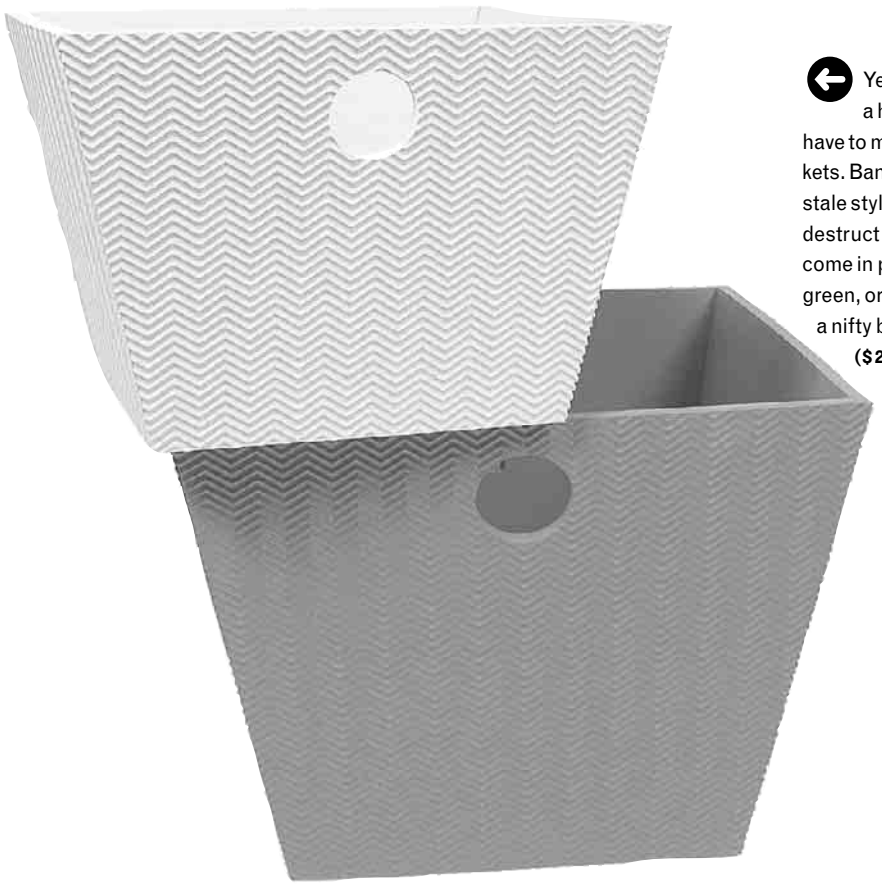
Pesky roommate or in-your-face significant other cramping your living space? Divide it or cordon it off with Molo's paper softwall, a honeycomb, 6-foot-high translucent, fire-shunning screen that can stretch (and curve) up to 25 feet. When placed in a well-lighted room, it glows like a minimalist art installation. **($990, VELOCITYARTANDDESIGN.COM)**

IKEA's strange wall-mounted table-cum-bizarro artwork features four interchangeable scenes, including a birdie, a giraffe on the savanna, a cityscape and a strange monk-like figure. Designed by Anna Larsson and named PS Enkoping, it folds away when not in use. But then you couldn't weird your friends out with the thing. **($50, IKEA STORES)**

Apartment 3-D

Make-up brushes and lipstick! Pens and staplers! Zillions of Q-tips! Copious amounts of small things will fit into this Utensilo wall caddy. Designed by German modernist Ingo Maurer in the 1960s, it was recently reissued in black, white or red plastic, plus a limited-edition chrome model. **(AS SHOWN, $360, VELOCITY ARTANDDESIGN.COM)**

Even Pottery Barn, the place that pretty much invented the mega sofa, is playing the small-is-cool game these days. The Stratton platform bed features under-matress compartments and baskets, which should elminiate clutter and cut down on the dust bunnies. It comes in white- or mahogany-stained hardwood. **($999, POTTERYBARN.COM)**



Yeah, Junior's toys need a home, but that doesn't have to mean lame wicker baskets. Banish kiddie clutter — and stale style — with these hard-to-destruct foam storage bins. They come in punch-bright hues (lime green, orange, turquoise) and a nifty bicycle-tread texture. **($24 AND $36, GO MAMA GO!, 1809 14TH ST. NW; 202-299-0850; GOMAMAGO.COM)**

LUCIAN PERKINS/TWP

CLOSE QUARTERS: Brad and Cynthia Koons, with dog Barney, share a basement apartment near Dupont Circle that measures less than 400 square feet.

A Studio-Sized Love

With a little give and take, couples thrive in teeny apartments

For couples who share tiny spaces, every moment presents an opportunity to snuggle up with the one you love. When you live in an apartment the size of a dorm room, everything — making dinner, doing dishes, folding laundry, paying bills — takes on a certain intimacy, whether you want it to or not.

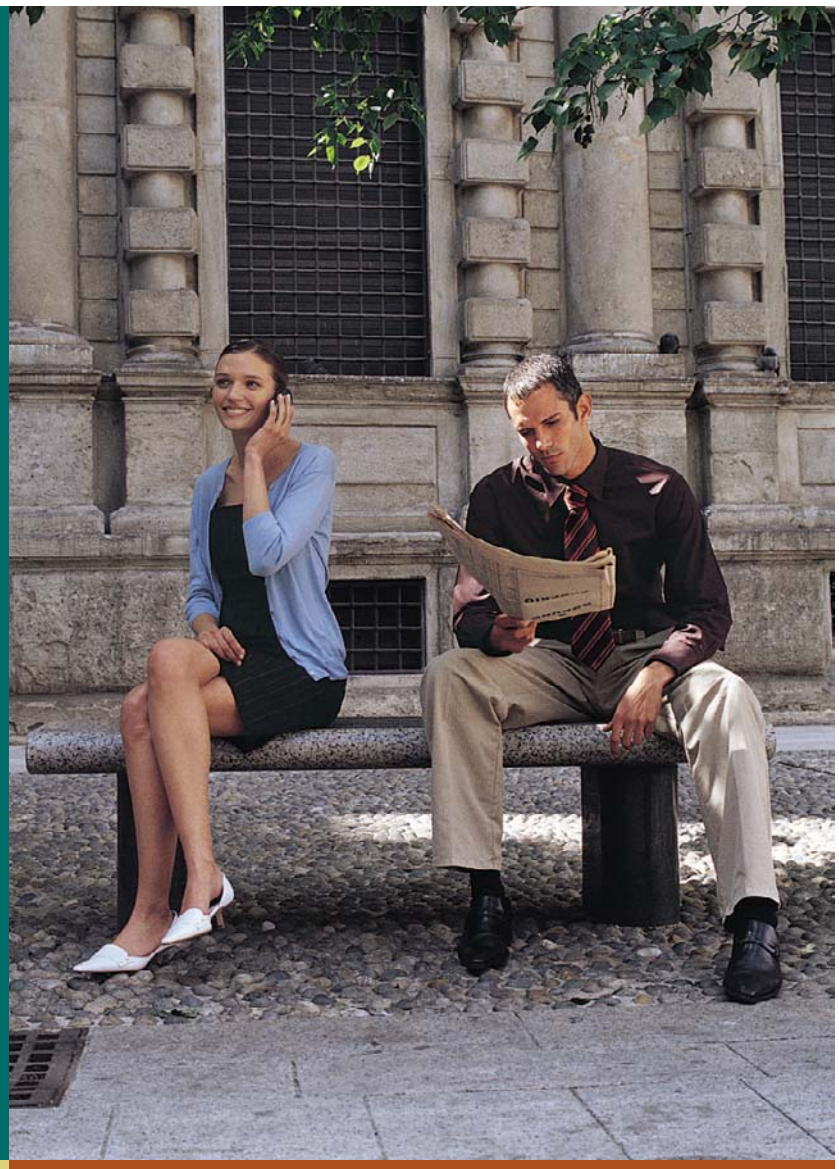
The "tour" of Jennifer and Jeremy Haile's apartment lasts only as long as it takes a visitor to glance from left to right about 45 degrees. For the past four years, since returning from a Peace Corps stint overseas, the couple has called a 416-square-foot Georgetown studio home.

Their bed — which is also one of their two couches — is a futon, hard up against the front door. Books, papers, vitamins and foodstuffs share shelf space in one corner. The computer doubles as an entertainment center; they watch DVDs on it and store all of their music on its hard drive. Their refrigerator and stove look like full-size versions that have been shrunk to about 65 percent by some sort of kitchen-appliance copying machine.

Wait: It gets better. Jeremy Haile is currently a first-year law student at George Washington University and does most of his studying at home. And because first-year law students study more or less around the clock, peace and quiet are more valuable to him right now than anything.

During exams, he says, "I was pulling close to 20-hour days. But

Continued on page E13



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CONDOLiving

LUCIAN PERKINS/TWP

Brad and Cynthia Koons' Dupont Circle English basement holds only a small amount of furniture; the couple stashes other possessions with Brad's parents.

Continued from E9

Jen has the patience of Job. She would use headphones [to watch TV or listen to music]; she prepared all of my meals, and I'd go in my little corner and study. And somehow it worked."

The Hailes are no strangers to domestic deprivation. As Peace Corps volunteers, they lived in what they refer to as a "Soviet-style" apartment in Armenia, where it was so cold that any water left in the bathtub would freeze over. "To go into the kitchen, you had to dress like you were going outside," Jennifer says.

For two years they slept in a twin bed, with only a small kerosene heater — and each other — to warm them. "Now, when we go to a hotel and there's a king-size bed, we sleep together at the very edge of it," she says. "We don't really know how to sleep apart."

Living in comically cramped quarters may be easier when you're madly in love with your roommate, the Hailes say, but that doesn't necessarily make it easy. Every move they make reflects a negotiation of sorts.

"Jeremy was losing his eyesight during his first semester," says Jennifer, an events coordinator for National Public Radio. "He thought he was going to have to get glasses. The doctor told him: 'You have to stop reading in such small amounts of light.' What was happening was that I would go to bed at 10:30 or so, and he would turn on this tiny little lamp" to stay up reading until 1:00 a.m. or later. "So now I have to go to bed with the lights on, which is unfortunate." Her husband recently bought her a sleeping mask. (It helps.)

"The three Cs — communication, commitment and compromise — will get you through almost any sort of conflict," says Regina Leeds, a Los Angeles-based professional organizer and author of the 2003 book "Sharing a Place Without Losing Your Space: A Couple's Guide to Blending Homes, Lives, and Clutter" (Alpha Books). In her work with cohabiting couples, she has learned that one of the most frequent sources of disagreement is over where to put, and indeed whether to keep, the innumerable things that accrue over the course of their lives.

Continued on page E14

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

CONDOLiving

LUCIAN PERKINS/TWP

The Koonses eat on their futon, use their dishwasher as a cabinet and store pans under the kitchen sink. Luckily, pooch Barney doesn't take up much space either.

Continued from E13

"People usually bring too much stuff with them," says Leeds. "And then they make assumptions about that stuff. I'll presume that you're going to love my mother's pink china — and that this is what we will be using on the holidays. And I don't talk to you about it, because, well, surely, if you love me, you can see how beautiful this is. You, on the other hand, are presuming that I see how beautiful your mother's beige china is."

Both presumptions are wrong, she suggests. "Especially in a small space, you need to divest yourself of everything that is not critical. That can mean tossing things. But it can also mean getting a storage space, or better yet, asking Mom and Dad if you can store things in their garage, or in your old room."

That idea worked for Brad Koons. When his parents moved from Arizona to a nearby suburb in Maryland, he persuaded them to let him keep his car and his copious outdoor gear at their house, rather than at the minuscule English basement he and his wife, Cynthia, share near Dupont Circle. Though it's a one-bedroom, their apartment appears to be smaller than the Hailes' studio. (They don't know how many square feet it is, and have never asked. The figure wasn't disclosed in the original "for lease" listing. Imagine that.)

But the Koonses — he's a lawyer, she just received her graduate degree — aren't complaining. "We think of the size of the apartment as the price of getting to have a completely walkable lifestyle," Cynthia says. "We really appreciate that we can walk to anything we need in the neighborhood. Brad can walk to work, and I can walk to school."

The Koonses eat on their futon, use their miniature dishwasher as a cabinet and keep pots and pans "under the sink, where normal people keep their cleansers," she says. Their bedroom can barely contain their full-size bed, much less the open shelving where they store clothes, books and CDs. As a quirky symbol of the couple's commitment to streamlin-

> "In a small space, you need to divest yourself of everything that is not critical. That can mean tossing things."
>
> REGINA LEEDS
> PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER

CONDO

ing their lives, a unicycle leans against a wall in the vestibule; a bicycle wouldn't fit.

But their lifestyle may actually be good for their marriage. Cynthia says that living in a shoebox "encourages more communication. You're both sitting right there. There's no escape. If you have an argument, you're just going to have to talk through it and get over it. Every once in a while, one of us will go into the bedroom and shut the door, if we feel like we need some time alone. But for the most part, it forces us to battle it out until there's peace."

So far, they've managed to avoid the deadly third rail of living together in a tiny space: passive-aggressive "housecleaning" that results in the unauthorized removal of another's stuff.

The Hailes, alas, were not so lucky.

"My mom sent me a box with about $125 worth of cosmetics and vitamins in it," Jennifer says. "I was waiting to start my new beauty regimen until I finished my old supply.

> "We think of the size of the apartment as the price of getting to have a completely walkable lifestyle."
>
> CYNTHIA KOONS
> STUDIO DWELLER

Well, because I hadn't opened the clearly marked box in four months, Jeremy decided that I must not want it badly. He trashed it and didn't tell me."

That, as it turns out, was the wrong thing to do.

"It was one of the rare moments of shouting at our place," she says. "I took the opportunity to remind him of everything he's thrown away without my permission. I insisted that he hand-deliver my mom a check, and admit — and apologize for — his disregard for property. But finally I caved, and have been forced to lie to my mom for months about the wonders of Susan Lucci's skin-care therapy."

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JEFF TURRENTINE (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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Columbia Heights, Soaring

Condo market, retail development sizzle in Columbia Heights

When Marty Zupancic moved to Columbia Heights in Northwest Washington more than five years ago, he was disappointed by the lack of services and hangouts in his new neighborhood. "It's kind of shocking when you realize that there's nothing here," said Zupanic, now 32. "That's the big problem in Columbia Heights right now: There are so many people and so few establishments. When I moved here, I assumed that I could get out of bed and get a cup of coffee. I walked about two hours in each direction, and didn't find anything."

But instead of decamping to a more happening 'hood, Zupancic took action. He opened Columbia Heights Coffee (3416 11th St. NW; 202-986-0079) nearly three years ago, enlisting the services of neighborhood contractors to create a cozy café. Now, this space with with exposed brick walls and black-and-white photos of D.C. draws laptop-toting caffiends with free wi-fi, and avid readers with its relative peace and quiet. Since opening the coffeehouse, Zupanic has seen the neighborhood turn into a real-estate hot zone, in part because people like him didn't give up on a neighborhood with so much untapped potential.

New businesses, a Green Line Metro stop and a revitalized sense of community have also lured condominium developers with dollar signs in their eyes. The most notable ventures include the long-anticipated DC USA project — a 500,000-square-foot retail center scheduled for completion in early 2008 — and the Tivoli Square project, which encompasses a new Giant Foods store, GALA Hispanic Theatre, condos and several eateries. The multi-use complex makes its home in the grand 1924 Tivoli Theatre, a former movie palace. Other tenants expected soon: a restaurant called Rumberos (April), a Carvel Ice Cream shop (May) and Ruby Tuesday's (July).

ROOMS WITH A VIEW: Slated for completion this summer, the City Overlook project boasts loft-style condos, urban vistas and contemporary architecture.

Among the many new condo buildings popping up, Columbia Station at 3500 13th St. NW has been selling for only nine weeks. Buyers have already snapped up 23 of the 40 total units, priced from $249,000 to $449,000; developers expect a sell-out in the next three months. "Buyers seem excited to be [moving in] at the beginning of one of the hottest neighborhoods in Washington," said John Fitzgerald, a partner with Tenacity Group, which is selling the Columbia Station units. "Because of DC USA, a lot of them have this really nice vision of being in a walking community. The Giant Foods has a lot to do with it."

Columbia Heights is bordered on the west by 16th St., on the east by Georgia Avenue, on the north by Spring St. and on the south by Florida Avenue. Within those boundaries, buyers can choose from about a dozen current and future condo complexes. While the developer touts Columbia Station as an affordable choice, many properties list at higher price points. Highland Park, which will encompass 229 luxury condo units as well as street-level retail on 14th and Irving streets NW after its 2007 completion, offers condos with asking prices of up to $744,900. (Highland Park has reserved 30 percent of its units to be sold at below-market prices.) And The Lofts of Columbia Heights, going up at 2750 14th St. NW, boasts units ranging in price from $464,000 to $700,000. Slated to be completed this summer, the Lofts will also include first-floor retail space with

> "Things have really been happening since they opened the Metro stop. It seems like the neighborhood changes daily."
>
> ALESSANDRA D'OVIDO
> GALA HISPANIC THEATRE

Continued on page E20

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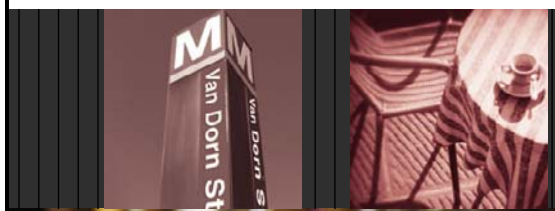

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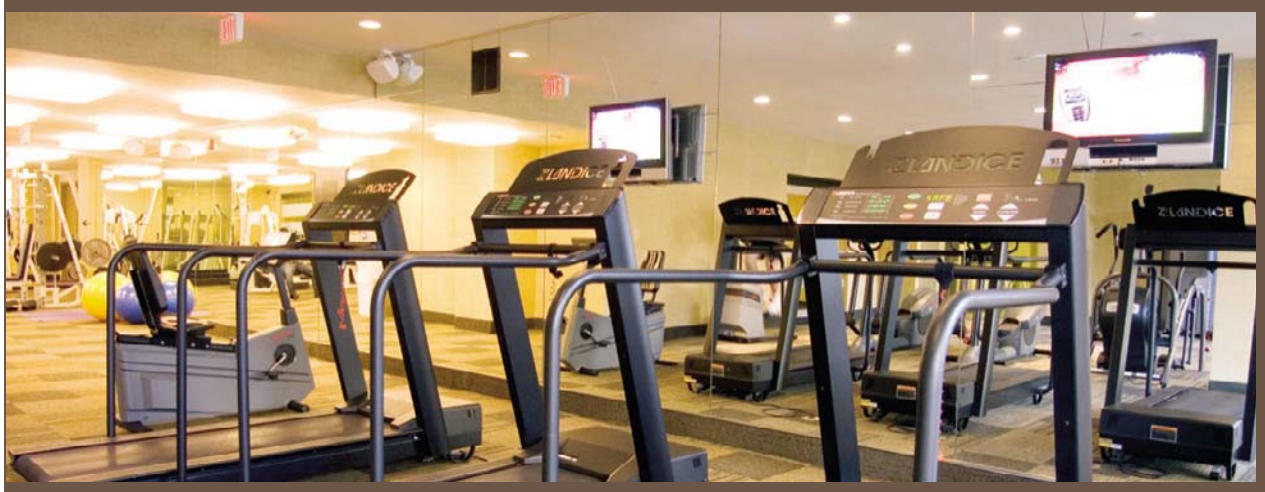

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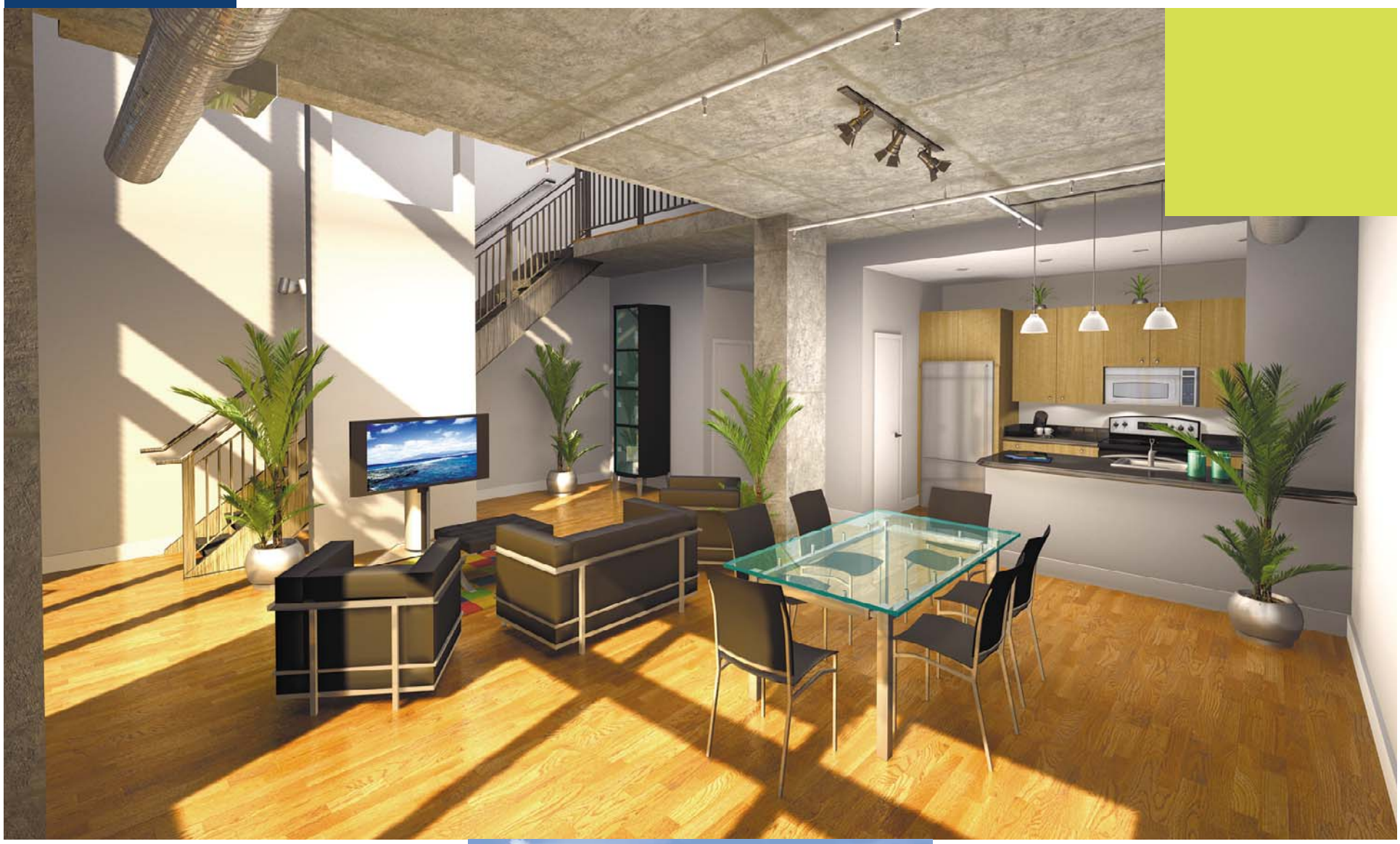

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NORMAN SMITH ARCHITECTURE

Mod kitchens, high ceilings and stellar park views of Meridian Hill Park must've appealed to buyers at the Lofts at Meridian Hill; the complex is sold out.

Continued from E16

a child-care facility and a high-end restaurant.

Kevin Powers, a 26-year-old communications strategist who currently lives in a Dupont Circle studio apartment, recently purchased a condo in Columbia Station. Powers seems excited about moving to the neighborhood, particularly because of the impending retail explosion. "It seems to be one of those areas with ambitious development plans," he said. "The idea of living within walking distance of a Best Buy is fantastic."

Though many condo buildings are going up north of Columbia Road NW, the southern portion of the neighborhood has also attracted new developments. Gail Montplaisir, the developer — and a resident — of The Lofts at Meridian Hill at 2307 and 2311 15th St. NW, is also behind southern Columbia Heights' City Overlook, a condo development at 1454 Belmont Rd. NW set for completion this summer.

The building houses 18 units priced between $300,000 and $1 million. "Everything has become extremely dynamic, and the dynamism was actually here before the development," Montplaisir said of the blocks surrounding City Overlook. "We like to find places where the neighbors are welcoming and friendly."

Those neighbors hail from a variety of income brackets, countries and cultures, which gives Columbia Heights a distinctive, polyglot atmosphere. The multi-culti, urban vibe attracts cultural organizations as well as condo-seekers. The Dance Institute of Washington, which specializes in arts education and sponsors the Washington Reflections Dance Company, is building a performance facility at the corner of 14th and Monroe streets NW.

> "That's the big problem in Columbia Heights right now: There are so many people and so few establishments."
>
> **MARTY ZUPANIC**
> COLUMBIA HEIGHTS COFFEE

Last January, GALA Hispanic Theatre became the first tenant at Tivoli Square. The 20-year-old company performs works in both Spanish and English. "This is the heart of the Latino community, and it's close to 14th St.'s theater scene. It feels right that we're here," said GALA's production manager, Alessandra D'Ovido. "And since we bring other arts organizations in — Washington Performing Arts Society, school groups — it seems like we're adding to the neighborhood."

The surrounding St.s themselves also yield a variety of art, from African-inspired sculptures on Belmont St. NW to the fountain- and statue-rich Meridian Hill Park, which often hosts performance artists and regularly features a drum circle on Sundays, said Montplaisir. "It also tends to be a gathering place whenever there are demonstrations in the city."

Further north in Columbia Heights, there are days when 14th St. feels like part of Central or South America. The singsong sounds of Spanish echo in corner stores and conjunto beats buzz on car stereos.

Luis Marroquin, a native of El Salvador, has lived in or near Columbia Heights for the past 37 years. He has also lived in Mexico, which inspired him to open Taqueria Distrito Federal (3463 14th St.; 202-986-1138), a down-home spot with lime-colored walls, a shrine to the Virgin of Guadalupe and servers who rarely speak English. Marroquin decorated his restaurant with bright colors, folk art and photos to evoke south-of-the-border climes.

Marroquin prides himself on offering traditional Mexican cuisine. He even imports his Pepsi and Coca-Cola from Mexico because he said they taste different than the U.S. versions.

MICHELLE REPISO/EXPRESS

SOUTH-OF-THE-BORDER PATROL: Fourteenth Street's popular Taqueria Distrito Federal serves down-home Mexican cooking — salsa, guacamole, cabrito, barbacoa, tacos and burritos — in a space decorated with colorful tiles and posters.

"Even though I'm Salvadorean, my cooks are Mexican," he said. "There are plenty of places where you can get Salvadorean food."

But the results have pleased local food critics, and the customers keep coming back. Marroquin said non-Latinos often point at what they want on the menu, which includes beef barbacoa and goat, plus tacos, burritos and other dishes.

> "Even though I'm Salvadorean, my cooks are Mexican. There are plenty of places where you can get Salvadorean."
>
> **LOUIS MARROQUIN**
> RESTAURANT OWNER

Marroquin, who has two young daughters, said he believes crime in Columbia Heights is down a bit. Coffee-shop owner Zupancic agrees, but noted that the window of his coffee shop was smashed a couple of weeks ago, and that neighborhood cleanup tools were recently stolen from the Northern Columbia Heights Civic Association.

But that won't keep progress — and new residents — from coming.

"I'm confident about the community around there," Powers said. "It's going to take a few years, but once [DC USA] is built, it's going to make things better."

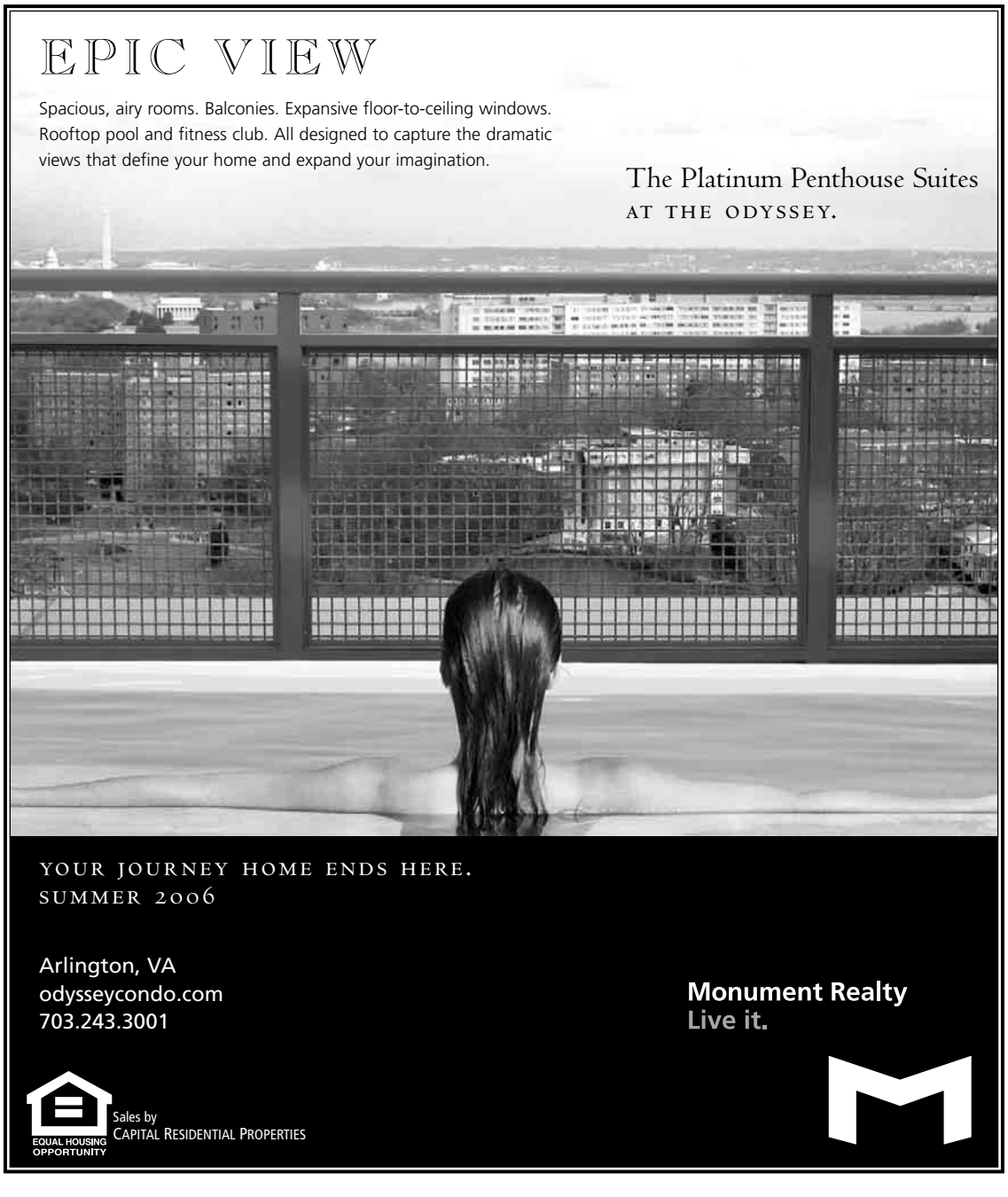
Said GALA's D'Ovidio, "Things have really been happening since they opened the Metro stop. The neighborhood seems like it changes daily."

RINA RAPUANO

BIG BOX STORES INVADING COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

IS COLUMBIA HEIGHTS the next hot shopping zone, à la U Street? The DC USA project, a $149.5 million, 500,000-square-foot retail complex, set to open in 2008, should make it a retail destination. Target Stores will anchor the under-construction venture on 14th Street between Irving Street and Park Road NW. Other anticipated tenants include Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy and Marshalls.

In the meantime, residents can visit the Giant grocery store (Tivoli Square, 1345 Park Road NW; 202-777-1077), the Columbia Heights Pharmacy (3316 14th Street NW; 202-232-1455) and Cooper Hardware (3459 14th Street NW; 202-387-0808). R.R.



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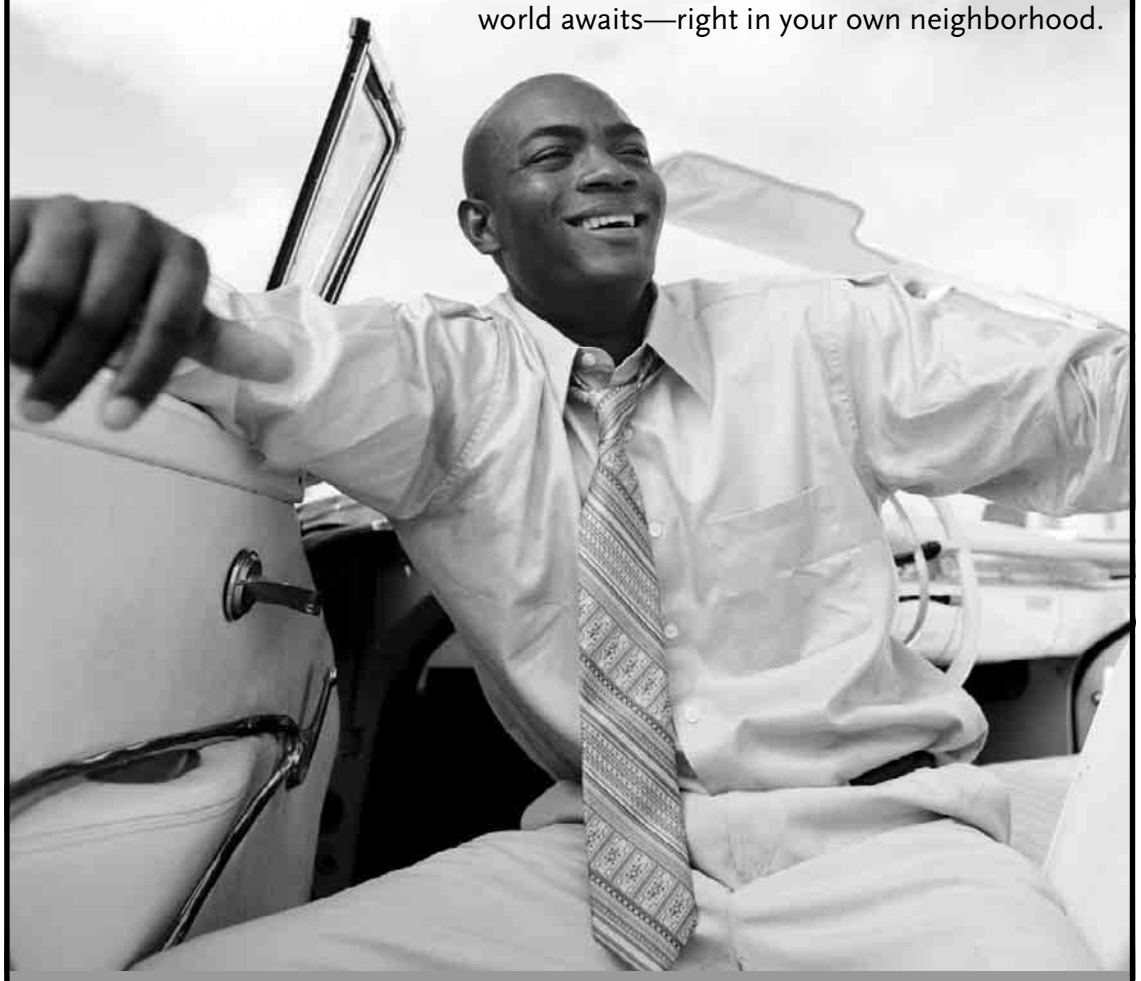

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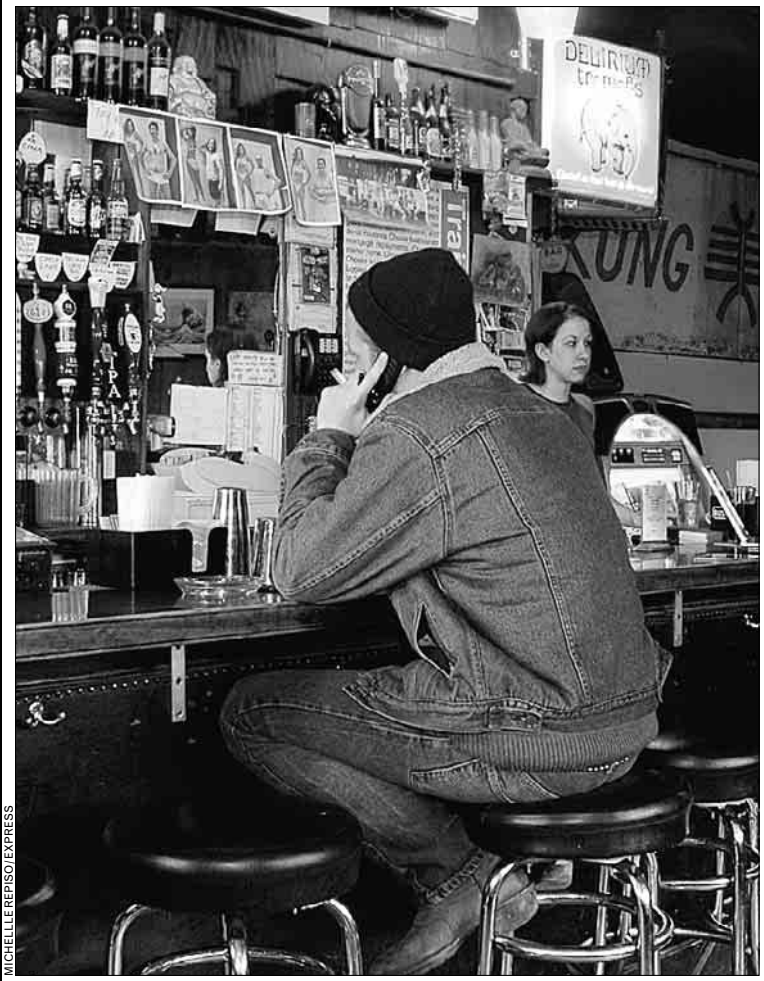

MICHELLE REPISO/EXPRESS

CORNERING THE MARKET: One of the few bars in Columbia Heights, The Wonderland Ballroom offers imported beer, a trivia night and a loaded jukebox.

Next Stop, Wonderland

'Hood hangout has movie nights, cool brews and live bands

Sure, the beer's always cold and the crowds usually convivial at Columbia Heights' funky Wonderland Ballroom. But it's the weekly events — a Monday trivia game, a Wednesday happy hour for parents (with kids in tow) and a Sunday movie screening — that make this laid-back corner bar stand out. The second level "ballroom," really a moderate-sized room with a small stage, a bar and second-hand sofas, hosts bands and live DJ nights, and there's also a loaded jukebox.

Husband and wife owners Matthew McGovern (a former bartender at Madam's Organ) and Rose Donna opened the joint a year and a half ago. They decked the walls with metal beer signs and quirky artifacts (a barber's pole, vintage album sleeves) and filled the drinks menu with Double Diamond English ale, Bürgerbraü Czech lager and Delirium Tremens, a high-alcohol Belgian beer.

A diverse crowd of neighborhood residents shows up here most nights, but aging hipsters often dominate. Expect many of them to turn out for movie nights in April, when a four-week festival of Coen brothers flicks begins mid-month. R.R.

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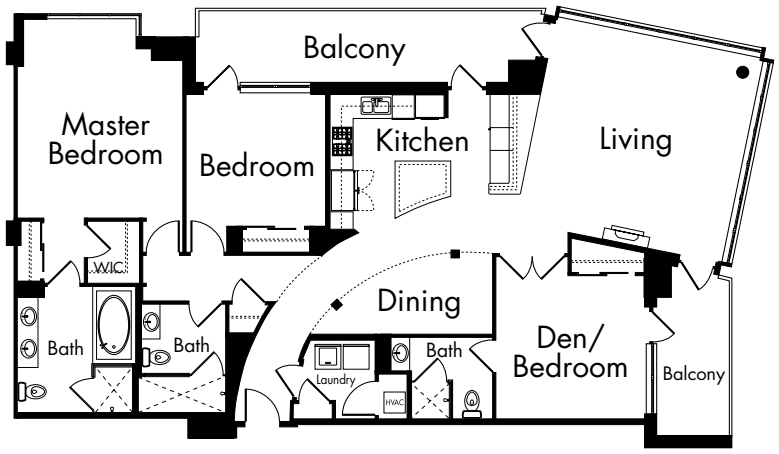

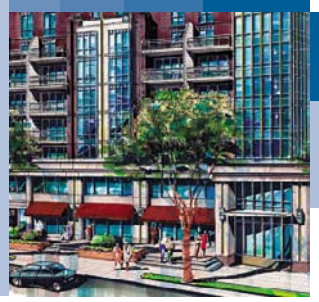

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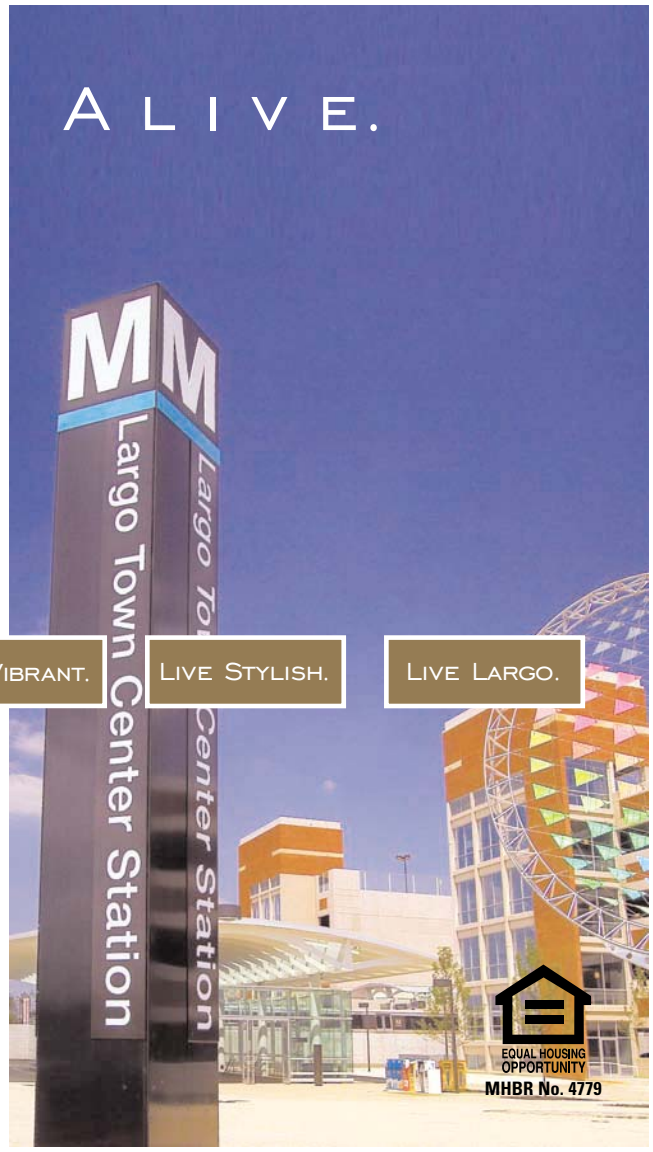

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Home Front

The Washington Post **HOME STAFF** share their decorating advice every Thursday at 11 a.m. on washingtonpost.com/liveonline.

I'm looking for moderately priced patio furniture, but I haven't seen anything I love. Any suggestions on where to look, other than Lowes, Home Depot and Crate and Barrel?

Restoration Hardware has a great new collection — it's very substantial, outdoor-room stuff. (No straps.) But you'll pay big for it. Grandin Road, the little sister to Frontgate, has a good looking wicker lounging-around line (grandinroad.com). Also try outdoor living stores like Offenbacher Pool 'n' Patio. The new Smith & Hawken line for Target is worth looking at, as is Martha's line for K-Mart.

An area rug can really pull a room together, but the home I just bought is fully carpeted. Can I put an area rug over carpet, or is that a big decorating no-no?

Gary Lovejoy of Washington, one of our top-tier designers, said it's just fine to do that. But the wall-to-wall carpeting needs to be very low pile for it to work. You generally don't need a non-skid rug pad because the carpeting serves that purpose.

I love the look of sisal rugs with the colored "tape" along the edges, but want something softer on my feet for my family room! Any suggestions on where to buy a soft sisal look-alike?

We are sooooo over those sisals with the two-inch binding in green or brown or leather or whatever. We need some new looks in inexpensive carpeting. Check out some of the great rugs at West Elm at Tysons Corner, CB2.com or capelrugs.com.

I don't need decorating help so much as I need arranging help. Is there someone who can come to your house, look at your rooms and your stuff, and then say, put this here and that there?

Yes. There are people who specialize in makeovers. And you can find one through your local chapter of the American Society for Interior Designers. In D.C., that is 202-488-4100.

Any recommendations on where a do-it-yourself decorator on a budget might find ideas? I'm trying to find books, magazines, etc., but everything seems too high-end.

We like Domino, Cottage Living and Budget Living magazines. Also check out "$500 Room Makeovers" by Lisa Quinn (Clarkson Potter, $22.50). She gives you lots of tips on color palettes, inexpensive window treatments and theme rooms.

We are trying to decide whether to get stainless steel or white appliances. Our kitchen doesn't exactly have a modern look, nor does the rest of the house. What do you recommend? We have white cabinets with silver knobs and the kitchen is pretty much microscopic.

Kitchen gurus are already saying that stainless is on its way out. So go with white, which will always be in.

I'm having trouble finding a smaller-than-2x3-foot accent rug for a small powder room. Can you recommend a store?

Have you tried Linens 'n' Things or Bed Bath & Beyond? Bloomingdale's has a great bathroom department too.

Besides Home Depot and Great Indoors, where else can I find traditional drawer pulls for my dresser?

Restoration Hardware has a great collection.

Any idea where I can find oval-shaped seat cushions for a pair of wicker chairs?

That's a tough one. Sounds like you need to find a friend who sews to make them for you.

Any recommendations for local places I can buy mohair upholstery fabric? (The kind of mohair with a straight pile — kind of like velvet with a longer pile.) I want to have a few pillows made with it.

We just called Discount Fabrics USA in beautiful Thurmont, Md. (discountfabricsusa.com, 301-271-2266). They try to carry mohair all the time.

Can you offer some color suggestions for the classic old-style black-and-white bathroom — small

black-and-white tile floor and white tile with black trim on the walls about halfway up. The hall carpet is brown and the walls are light grayish-green. The bathroom doesn't have to match the hall colors, but I don't want it to clash, since the door is always open when its not in use. I've got maroon in there now on the towels and curtains, but I'm ready for a change.

Black-and-white bathrooms are the best — anything goes. You can choose towels in bold colors such as hot pink, yellow, kelly green or marine blue. You could paint the walls a high-gloss white, then vary the towel colors. The shower curtain can be stripes, dots, geometrics, florals etc.

I've got a guest bedroom question. I recently purchased all-new linens — beautiful, crisp whites — and I'm looking to paint the walls a nice, inviting color, perhaps a shade of blue. (Right now, the walls are also white.) Any thoughts on what might work well? I don't want the room to feel too masculine or too feminine, and I'm trying to stay away from the neutrals so there will be good contrast with the linens. Seen any color combos you can recommend?

Sherwin Williams Hinting Blue is a kind of pale grayish blue. It will look different in morning and afternoon sun. If you want something stronger, try Vast Sky, a pale Wedgwood blue.

What type of flooring is appropriate in a kitchen/family combination room? I need something sturdy because I have kids and pets.

We keep plugging wood laminate for high-traffic, high-kid, high-pet areas. It works. Jura's got Pergo that is 7 years old, and even cat's claws haven't damaged it. Nor teenage boys. Nor golf cleats.

After two years of living with us in our small townhouse, our son and his family are finally moving out and facing the world on their own. We need a lot of work done. How can we make a significant but affordable change to pep up our empty nest?

What we would say is, first, enjoy your new space. Clean it up, toss or give away stuff you don't need and paint the walls a nice semi-gloss neutral like a warm Behr Eggnog. Don't start filling it up again for a little while. Space is a luxury.

I have 17-year-old daughter who'd like to update her room. She'll be leaving for college in a year, so a complete redesign isn't necessary but a "face-lift" is certainly in order. Any suggestions? She's a trendy girl who favors pinks and greens.

Check out Pottery Barn Teen (pbteen.com). They have a lot of pink and green. Some new sheets, a new coat of paint, new pillows and things like that will help make the room look fresh.

I am in search of area rugs for a new baby's room, as well as a master bedroom (which seems like an overstatement for a room that is 12x12, but what can you do). I would like the rugs to cover most of the floor. I've had trouble finding something nice and soft that's the right size and the right price. Is a trek out to Greenfront in order? Any other suggestions?

We consulted "DC Baby," a great book by Sarah Masterson. She likes IKEA for kids' furnishings, and IKEA has great inexpensive rugs. Also try Pottery Barn Kids.

I'm looking for a valance or window treatment for a window in a dining room. The walls are light brown and the dining table is a contemporary glass-top. Silk may be too fancy. We're having difficulty choosing the style, fabric and color.

Sage green would be nice with the light brown. A latte color might also be nice. JCPenney has a great window treatment department. Also, Bed Bath & Beyond has expanded its collection to include lifestyle diva B.Smith's line.

What area stores can you recommend for a wide selection of lighting? I need sconces to place around my living-room fireplace.

Dominion Electric Supply is currently having a 15 percent off in-stock lighting sale. The Great Indoors is a particular favorite of Annie's. Illuminations is high-end, but the style and service is terrific — it's located both in Cady's Alley and at 8th St. NW. Restoration Hardware has great sconces. Annapolis Lighting has locations all over, too. Gaylord's in Bethesda is more traditional but has great service — and they often can fix your lamps while you wait.

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At 46 stories each, the Turnberry Towers in Las Vegas, above, are a fair bit taller than the planned Turnberry Tower Arlington, which will boast a mere 26 stories.

Sin City In Rosslyn

An ultra-luxe Vegas complex will have a little sister in Virginia

So what do Arlington and Las Vegas have in common, you ask?

Why, an ultra-luxury condo tower being built by South Florida developer Turnberry Ltd., of course.

Never heard of Turnberry? You're probably not traveling in the right circles. Think Miami condos, the Fairmont Turnberry Isle Resort & Club and Aventura Mall in South Florida, a planned redevelopment of the iconic Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach, an earlier Vegas condo project that was the first on the Strip, a joint Vegas hotel-condo venture to connect to the MGM Grand casino, and resorts in the Bahamas and Orlando.

There are some differences, though, as you might expect, between what's happening in Sin City and right here in Rosslyn.

At Turnberry Towers Las Vegas, the dual 45-story towers are a three-minute walk from the Strip. The apartments cost from $500,000 to more than $1.3 million. The project is right across the street from the company's first ultra-expensive Vegas project, Turnberry Place — and from the showgirls at the Sahara.

Turnberry Tower Arlington, to be built on the site of what's now a Best Western hotel near Key Bridge, will be just 26 stories. But that's enough to qualify it as the tallest condo building in Rosslyn or Arlington and maybe even in the region, according to Turnberry and Arlington County planners who approved the tower by different names in 2001 and 2004.

The high-rise at 1881 N. Nash St., scheduled to be finished in the spring of '08, will have 247 units, ranging in size from 1,312 square feet for one bedroom and 1 ½ baths to 5,304 square feet for the tower suite — three bedrooms, a formal dining room, a library, a lounge, a staff suite and 5 ½ baths.

The units here are pricier

Continued on page E30

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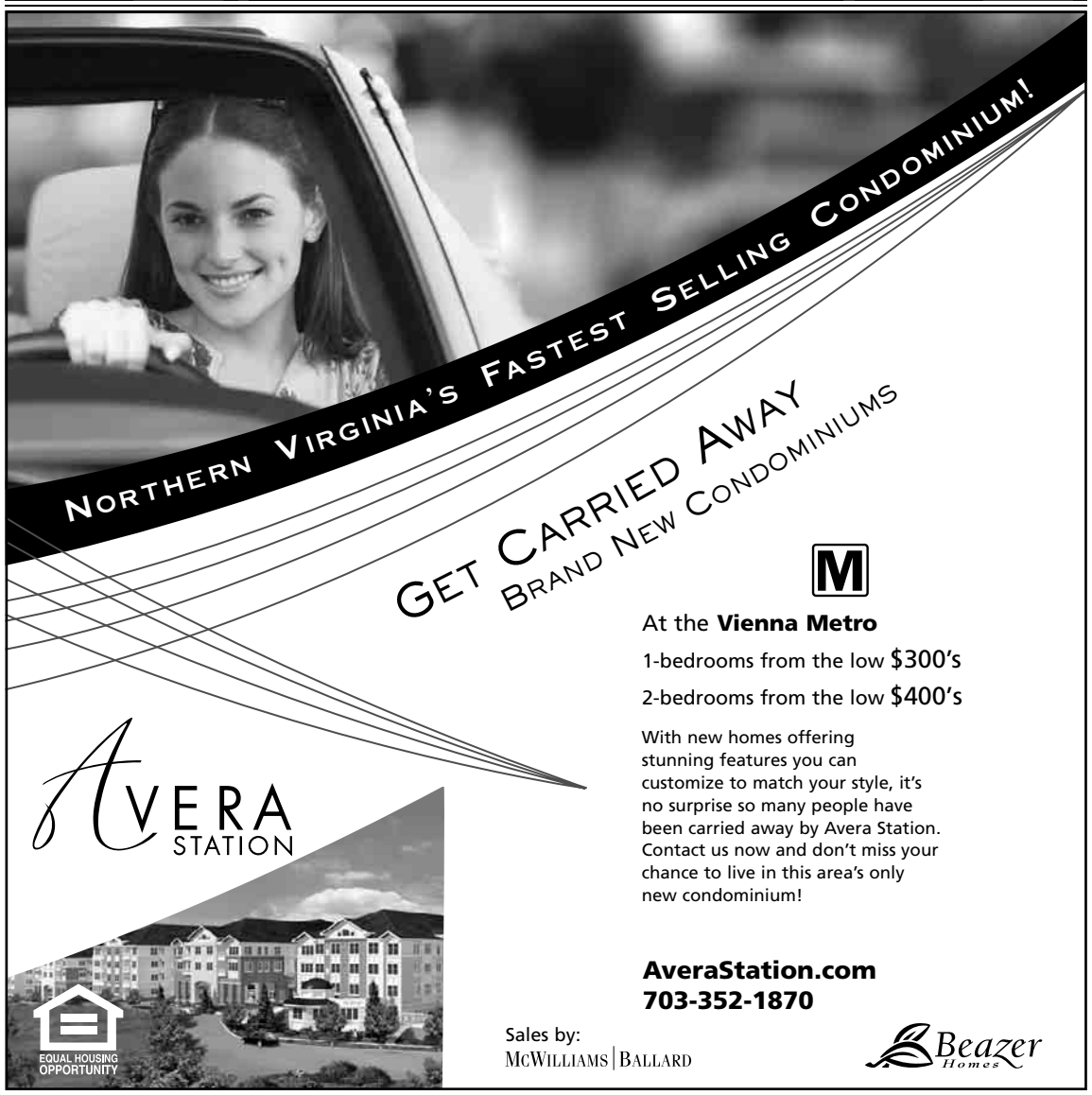


CONDOLiving

Continued from E29

than in Vegas. They range from $800,000 to a little more than $6 million for the penthouse, according to Jim Cohen, vice president of sales and marketing of Turnberry Ltd. in Miami.

Turnberry Tower Arlington won't have access to casinos; the 176-room Best Western sits next door to a Holiday Inn. But it will have those Rosslyn views of Georgetown, the monuments and the Potomac.

And it will have amenities including private elevators, a spa and fitness center, an indoor swimming pool, Italian cabinets, Miele appliances, Jacuzzi tubs and floor-to-ceiling windows. Plus, it will be "green" building certified, for environmentalists with a lot of green.

But aren't both ventures big gambles in two overheated condo markets?

After all, Arlington and Fairfax counties have 14,000 condo units under construction and 28,000 more planned or proposed, but only 4,000 units there sold last year, according to Kenneth Wenhold, director of the Virginia-Maryland division of MetroStudy, a Houston-based market research firm.

And in Las Vegas, where some had estimated last November that as many as 50 towers were being built or planned, the climate appears to have become way too cool lately, leading several developers to pull the plug. Among those leaving: Ivana Trump, ex-wife of Donald, who apparently doesn't vanna build her Ivana Las Vegas anymore, and Related Cos., which took 500 luxury units off the market in January.

Turnberry, however, sees no problem in either market, Cohen said.

Before deciding to enter the Washington region about a year and a half ago, "we watched that market," he said. "And it really had a good feeling as an area of need for luxury. We specialize in luxury, that's the basis of the whole business."

Since a sales office opened in the back of the Best Western about five months ago, around 120 condos have sold, including a $4 million unit, he said.

The experts can be wrong on such things, Cohen added.

"All the experts said not to go into condos in Las Vegas," said Cohen, because tourists wouldn't desert the hotels for their own luxury suites. "But we went against all the experts and had tremendous success."

Vegas still is "very strong" for developers who are careful, he explained. And that means catering to buyers who will live in the buildings, not those who are simply making a speculative investment. "We didn't jump on the investor market. We take a 30 percent deposit on a condo ... and that takes away a lot of the investors," Cohen said.

In the Washington area, "we know that the investor market has dried up quite a bit," he said. "But our sales pace is just as we estimated it going in."

> "All the experts said not to go into condos in Las Vegas ... but we went against them and had tremendous success."
>
> JIM COHEN
> TURNBERRY LTD.

The project "has wonderful amenities" and "the model looks great," said Ann Worley, an agent with McEnearney Associates in McLean, who had clients who considered buying there. She noted that the tower has lots of competition at the high end, in Rosslyn and Georgetown.

Her clients, who were in their seventies, decided not to buy because "it will take three years to build" and because "the best views are already gone."

Turnberry is partnering on the project with Facchina Development Co. of La Plata. The luxury tower was originally approved in mid-2001 as an even more swank building, with only about 176 units and a different developer. But the plan was suspended after Sept. 11, 2001, and re-approved with a different name and more units in 2004. SANDRA FLEISHMAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Creatively Cashin' In

Buyers hock family jewels and cars to get down payments

Lauren and Chris Abi-Najm moved to the Washington area from Georgia last winter with a plan: They would save up and buy a place of their own. And to save up, they would move in with his parents in Lorton.

With two good jobs — he's a computer network engineer and she's an occupational therapist — it seemed feasible.

The couple, still stunned by high home prices here, found a $423,000 condo they liked in a new Shirlington development. And then they had to contend with another big number: a 5 percent earnest-money deposit.

"Twenty-two thousand? I definitely thought, that's a lot of money," said Lauren Abi-Najm, 28. She and her husband were thousands of dollars short.

Throughout the recent housing boom, many Washington area residents have relied on low- or no-down-payment mortgages to purchase houses they otherwise may not have had the cash to afford.

So-called 103 percent loans even cover closing costs. But even in these times of low down payments, first-time home buyers are finding that they still need cash — and yes, a lot of it sometimes.

That money goes to up-front deposits, often referred to as earnest money. For new homes, the deposit amount is set by the builder and paid to reserve a unit. In resales, the amount is more loosely defined. In the recent buying frenzy, the size of the deposit sometimes became the determining factor in who won a bidding war.

Because deposits represent up to 10 percent of the purchase price, they have mushroomed along with home prices. After five years of double-digit gains in home values, even entry-level buyers in this region now face earnest-money deposits that can easily equal a year's salary.

That has sent would-be homeowners scrambling for cash — from parents, second jobs, even retirement funds.

Some, real estate agents say, have resorted to more creative measures, such as negotiating signing bonuses on their first jobs, selling belongings on eBay and, in at least one case, pawning a family heirloom.

> "It's a dilemma for young buyers who don't have a history of savings. Most people aren't going to take their houses off the market for a tiny earnest money deposit."
>
> DENISE CHAMPION
> D.C. REAL ESTATE AGENT

"The earnest money is one of the single biggest problems for young people," said Donna Evers, president of Evers & Co. Real Estate Inc. in the District.

"It is a dilemma for young buyers who don't have a history of savings. Most people aren't going to take their houses off the market for a tiny earnest money deposit," said Denise Champion, a District-based real estate agent with Long & Foster in Chevy Chase.

So just how much earnest money should buyers offer?

There is no written rule, and customary deposits vary by location and type of housing.

KATHERINE FREY/TWP

Heather and Brett Huhman scraped together only $2,000 in earnest money, but found a zero-down mortgage, which allowed them to buy a Derwood townhouse.

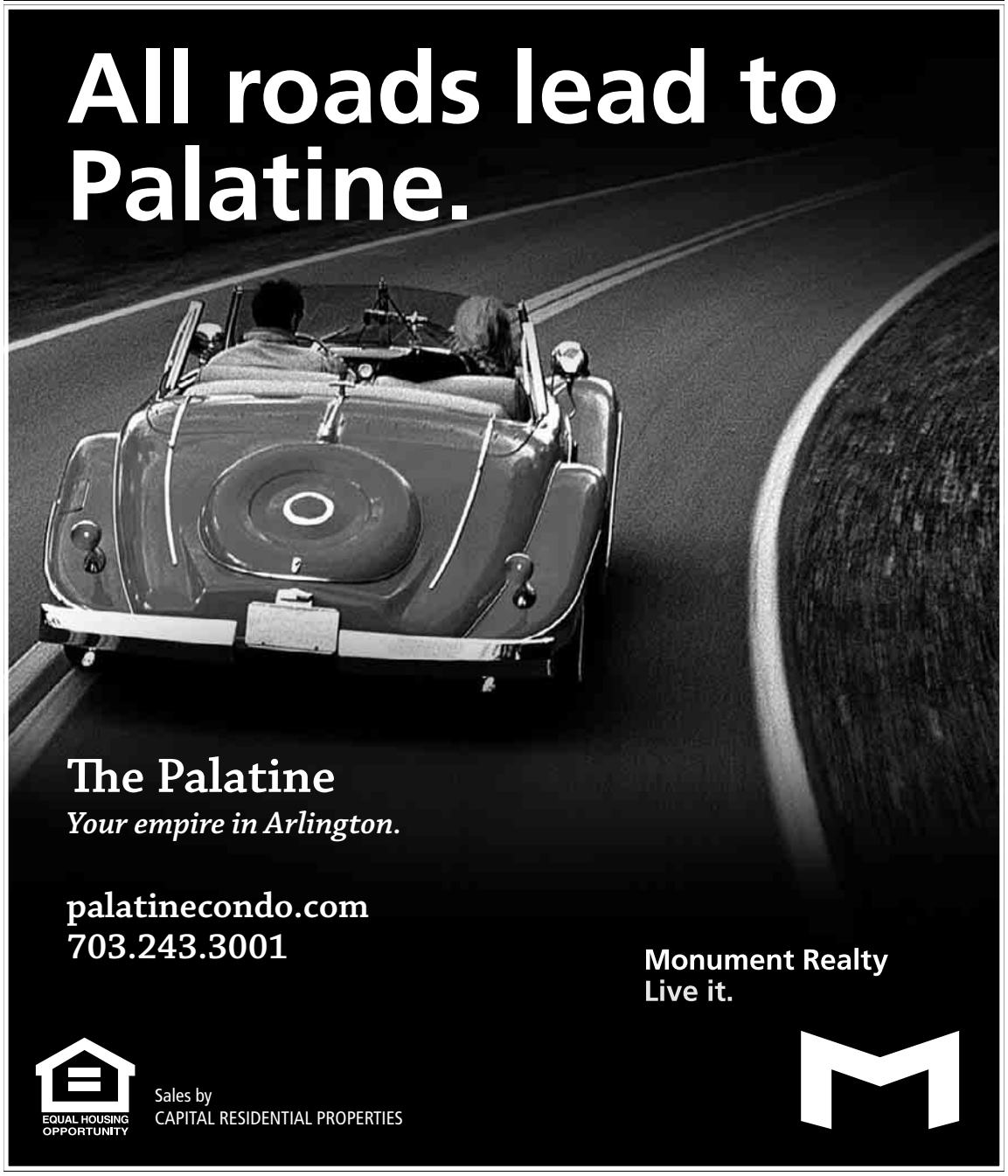
Local real estate agents said they have seen earnest money as low as a $1,000 deposit on a condo in Prince William County. Champion recalled one buyer who offered to put 100 percent of the purchase price of a Northwest Washington house into escrow, and thus beat out the competition in a bidding war.

Generally, though, a good guideline to follow is 5 percent to 10 percent of the purchase price, Evers said. For a $400,000 house, then, buyers can expect to put up $20,000 to $40,000 in earnest money.

For sellers, that kind of cash serves as a safety blanket, because buyers risk losing it if they back out of a deal.

For buyers, the deposit is a way

Continued on page E32



Continued from E31

to show they are sincere about their offer. The bigger the deposit, the thinking goes, the less likely the buyers are to walk away.

Earnest money is not given directly to the seller; it's put into an escrow account. If the offer is rejected, the money is returned to the buyer. If it is accepted, the cash is generally used toward the down payment or closing costs, or returned to the buyer at settlement.

Putting down a hefty earnest-money deposit can impress, but it is just one element sellers consider when deciding whether to accept a bid.

A weak deposit, real estate agents say, can be offset by a strong letter from a lender, high credit scores and solid financial statements.

> "To us, that [$2,000] was a lot of money. We were definitely concerned. But we didn't really have other options."
>
> **HEATHER HUHMAN**
> RECENT HOME BUYER

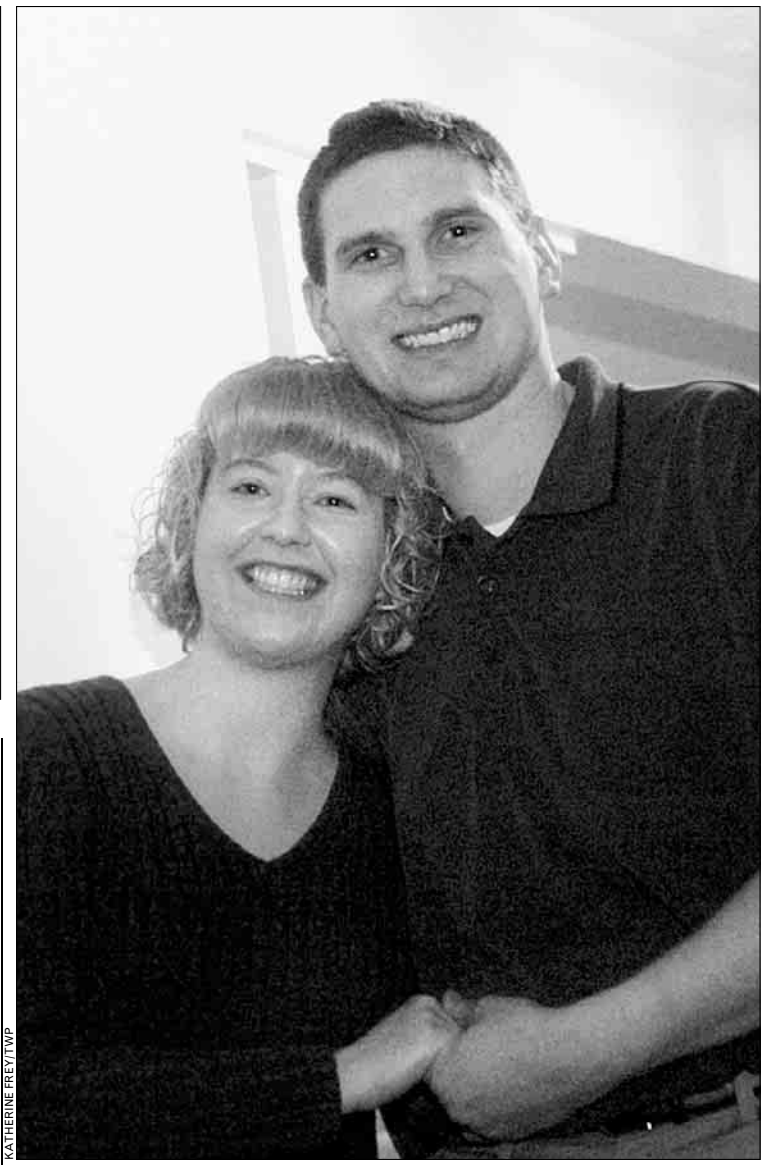
Heather and Brett Huhman, who moved to Montgomery County last year after graduating from the University of Missouri at Columbia, consider themselves among the lucky ones.

They did not have much to offer in the way of earnest money. In fact, they had only $2,000, scraped together from cash gifts they had received at their wedding in June.

"To us, that was a lot of money," said Heather Huhman, 22. But it represented just half a percent of the asking price on a Derwood townhouse. "We were definitely concerned. But we didn't really have other options."

Of course, it helped that the three-bedroom unit had been on the market for a while. (The seller had moved out.)

And the Huhmans' offer had other strengths. Both have good credit: They learned that they could buy a home through a zero-down loan for a monthly payment that was not much more than the rent they were paying for a Rockville townhouse.



KATHERINE FREY/TWP

Good credit — and bidding $15,000 over the asking price — helped Heather and Brett Huhman buy a townhouse even though they had a very small down payment.

They also have good jobs: He is an electrical engineer for L-3 Communications Titan Group; she is in public relations.

The seller was willing to work with them. To avoid paying closing costs up front, the couple bid $15,000 above the asking price and the seller in turn paid the closing costs.

"We thanked the seller profusely at closing," said Heather Huhman, who now works for a public relations firm whose clients include Evers, the real estate agent.

One way to come up with a solid earnest-money offering, of course, is the old-fashioned way: save. But increasingly, real estate agents and mortgage brokers said, not too many are patient enough to do that.

"We as a society can get everything we want immediately," said Mark Chilli, a loan officer with Mortgage Capital Investors in Woodbridge. "If I want a car, I can get it now with a lease. If you go to Best Buy, you can buy a plasma screen TV for zero percent financing."

To come up with their deposits, buyers have located cash in unexpected places. Some have temporarily liquidated their stocks, while others have sold their cars, real estate agents said.

One young couple hawked a diamond necklace, a family heirloom, for half its value for a $5,000 deposit, said Todd Hetherington of Century 21 New Millennium in Alexandria.

Another buyer turned to her boss for a $20,000 earnest-money deposit.

"She had been working for this guy for a long time. He kind of looked at her almost as a daughter," said Maura Sullivan of Long

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& Foster in Woodbridge.

Danielle Canonico, 26, relied on her parents' help for her earnest money. Two years ago, Canonico's parents chipped in the $12,000 deposit for a Centreville condo. She recently bought a unit in the same Shirlington project as the Abi-Najms. This time, she came up with the deposit money herself.

She plans to sell the first condo. From the profit she expects, Canonico said, she will pay her parents back in full.

"They were willing to help out. They knew it was going to be a good investment," she said.

The Abi-Najms also turned to what Evers calls "the Bank of Mom and Dad."

Last June, Francois and Regina Abi-Najm accompanied their son and daughter-in-law to one of the project's quickly booked sales appointments, and put down the $22,000 deposit on the spot.

Chris and Lauren Abi-Najm expect to move into the two-bedroom condo, which has a sunroom, open floor plan and hardwood floors, after construction is finished in July.

> "It was impossible to afford anything right away. I really don't know how we could've done it [buy] without them [her in-laws]."
>
> **LAUREN ABI-NAJM**
> HOME OWNER

"It was impossible to afford anything right away," said Lauren Abi-Najm, now the mother of a baby boy. "I really don't know how we could have done it without them."

Her in-laws said it never occurred to them not to pitch in. It doesn't matter if they get the money back or not, they said.

"We come from a large family, and we all help each other," Francois Abi-Najm said.

Jokingly, he added, "It's not for them — it's for my grandson." TOMOEH MURAKAMI TSE (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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ROBERT A. REEDER/TWP

2 BDRM., 2 BATH, NICE LIGHT, GAS-STATION VIEW: In his somewhat obsessive search for a condominium to buy, Virginia renter James Cave looked at The Joule at Virginia Square, where the apartments are priced from $350,000 to $1 million.

Condo Crazed?

Va. man debates pros and cons of buying a place in Arlington

James Cave, 34, navigates smoothly through the congested streets of Arlington on a recent workday afternoon. He's wearing a baseball cap and driving a new black SUV. He's the very picture of urban cool, but he is simmering hot with rage. Shaking his head and waving his arms in frustration, he points out what he sees as the rising signs of insanity all around him.

He gestures to one newly built condominium tower where he had considered buying. "$350,000 to $1 million," he snorts. "Next to a gas station and a fast-food restaurant. Smell it! Smell it! You can smell the fast food cooking!"

Cave points to another rising edifice. "You can see the signs — luxury condos for $800,000. What could be so luxurious in a condo?"

He nods toward another pricey building, mockingly noting that it overlooks a bus parking lot. "That's no view," he says.

> "There are probably the same number of buyers as before, but they are not in any rush to buy."
>
> **RICK BOSL**
> VIRGINIA REAL ESTATE AGENT

Real estate has become an obsession for a lot of people in this region, and Cave is one of them.

With 11 years of work experience as a graphic designer, secure in his job, climbing in his field, Cave is the kind of young man who normally would have already moved into the ranks of smug homeownership. He has spent the past eight years saving for a down payment. He is ready for the nesting phase of life, would like to buy and has identified the neighborhood he wants, but now it all just seems too uncertain, too expensive. And so he waits.

Instead, he spends at least part of every day thinking about real estate — what's for sale, how much it costs, what it looks like. He wonders how people can afford it, whether home prices can continue to rise and what would happen if they were to fall. He worries most about what would happen to him if values were to fall after he finally bought.

A University of Maryland graduate who grew up in Prince George's County, Cave recalls a time when he was about 20, during the real estate slump of the early 1990s, when houses in his family's Bowie neighborhood sat unsold for months, finally changing hands for much less than the owners had hoped.

Cave and other would-be first-time buyers are part of the reason

Continued on page E36

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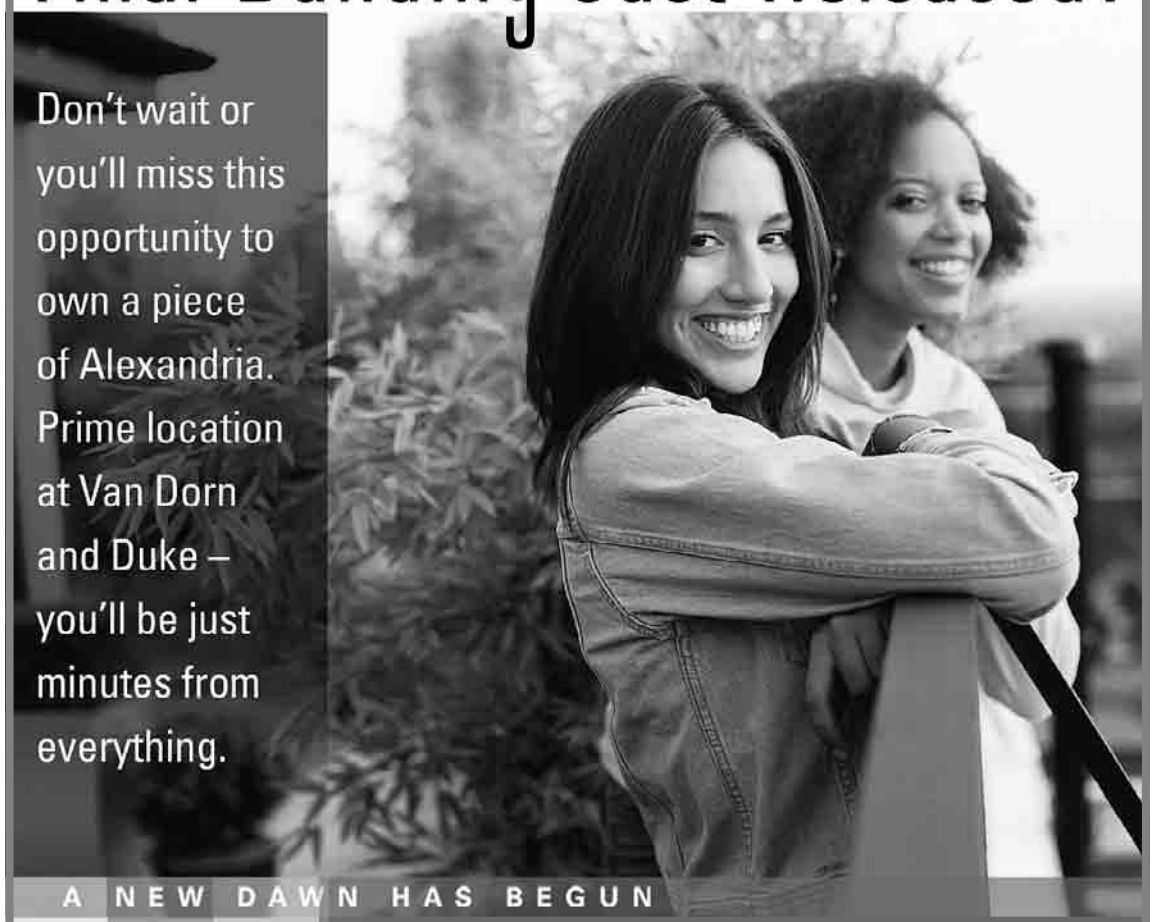

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CONDOLiving

ROBERT A. REEDER/TWP

Wannabe condo buyer and longtime renter James Cave surfs the Web to get details on pads he might purchase. A favorite site: www.arlingtoncondo.com.

Continued from E35

the Washington area market has slowed down. Instead of leaping into the market as others did in the past few years, more prospective purchasers are taking their time, agonizing over the decision and, in some cases, deciding to take a wait-and-see approach before committing.

"There are probably the same number of buyers as before, but they are not in any rush to buy," said Rick Bosl, a real estate agent who specializes in the Arlington condo market and works with Keller Williams Realty. And there are just so many more homes for sale, he said.

The multiple listing service lists 462 condos available for sale in Arlington, he said. There are several hundred more units available in new buildings and new condo conversions that aren't listed on that service.

"In some markets, we've seen prices go down, and nobody wants to buy in a falling market," he said. "On the other hand, there can be more opportunities, because if your house has been available for sale on the market for a while, you might be willing to sell for anything that comes along." He added that many condos have appreciated so much that the owners could decide to accept a $150,000 profit rather than $200,000, if they wanted to sell quickly.

Houses are now on the market in Arlington for an average of 59 days, up from 22 days a year ago, according to the most recent statistics from the Metropolitan Regional Information Systems, and the number of condo offerings is mounting. In February 2005, 94 condos and coops were for sale in Arlington; in February 2006, that number had increased to 444 units.

But many buyers can't afford condos even at today's prices. When Cave does the numbers, he finds it hard to justify the expense. A couple of years ago, he noted, one-bedroom condos were selling for $175,000, and now they are listed at twice the price.

> "What's happened in the last three years? My salary hasn't gone up anything like that. It's like the Internet stock craze."
>
> **JAMES CAVE**
> VIRGINIA CONDO SEEKER

Sitting at the computer in the video production firm where he works, Cave calculates how much he could afford to pay, at various interest rates and with different amounts of down payment. Take, for example, the Arlington condo he rents for $1,400 a month. Units similar to his have sold for $480,000. Recently the investor who is his landlord offered to sell him the place for $440,000. Cave could buy it, but he turned down the

CONDOLiving

ROBERT A. REEDER/TWP

James Cave would like to buy a place in Clarendon, but he's finding the prices to be daunting. "It seems like the moorings are coming undone from reality," he says.

offer. He figured out it would cost him more than $3,000 a month to own the place, assuming a 20 percent down payment, taxes, insurance and the condo fee.

"It seems like the moorings are coming undone from reality," he said. "It's like the Internet stock craze — you'd sit there and say something doesn't compute here . ... What's happened in the last three years? My salary hasn't gone up anything like that."

He reflects on the old rule of thumb that people shouldn't pay more than one-third of their income for housing. When did that change? Some of his friends, he said, say they are paying 60 percent of their income for housing, doing it with interest-only loans, facing the prospect of balloon payments.

He worries that too many investors bought condos in recent years and that their speculative purchases do not reflect real demand.

"They can flip it and leave someone else holding the bag," Cave said. "That's the world we live in now. They don't care if you're hurt or if you can't pay your mortgage."

So now Cave watches carefully, walking his target market, which runs from Clarendon to Ballston in Arlington, checking out construction sites to see what is planned, and visiting the models when they become available. He does a lot of his searching on the Internet.

He clicks into one Web site he frequently visits, arlingtoncondo.com, which shows both existing for-sale listings and new complexes, to see what is available. He quickly notes that there are now 47 new complexes being advertised for sale, which strikes him as a lot. He had been noticing that prices seemed to be dropping, and now when he visits the site, he notices that the listed prices are no longer available.

"It's like they're hiding the prices now," he said. "They've all taken the prices off the list."

Still, he said, his friends keep urging him to buy. They say the Washington area market is different than that in other parts of the country because there is so much job growth here and because so many jobs pay well. They talk about the tax advantages they are enjoying.

And, he said, they tell him, "You're throwing your money away."

KIRSTIN DOWNEY (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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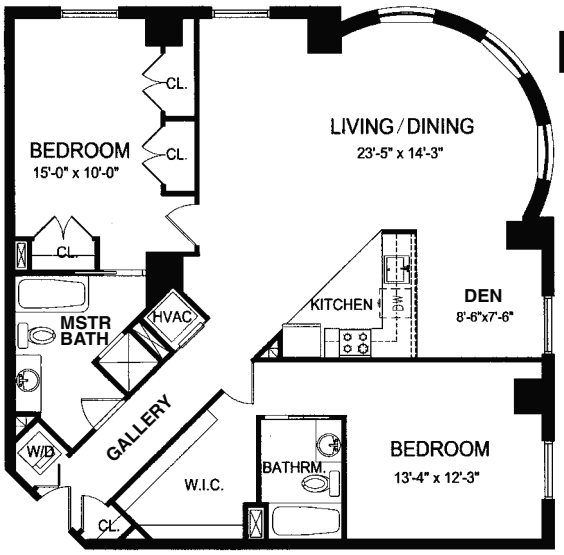

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Real Estate

Washington Post writer **MARYANN HAGGERTY** regularly discusses the D.C.-area housing market on washingtonpost.com/liveonline.

How can people afford to buy homes in D.C.? I have several degrees, make around $100K a year, have no debt and no dependents, and could make $170K in profit if I chose to sell my condo. But the best I could buy would be another, probably smaller condo (the one I have has three bedrooms). Why can't I buy a single family home in a reasonable neighborhood? And I am not interested in commuting from West Virginia or Pennsylvania. Most of the mortgage calculators say I can afford about $400K — enough for a one-bedroom condo. Is everybody here rich or what?

Well, unfortunately for you, many people here ARE rich, at least in comparison with other areas of the country. And many of them are married or otherwise have partners, so they can combine two good incomes.

How do they afford it? Two high-income earners in a household, and equity from the old house. A single, first-time buyer, even with a good income — which is what I was, eight years ago — is just not going to be able to do it in today's market.

Yeah, that really is the way that people afford those houses: Equity built up over the years. Million-dollar houses are not starter homes. They just aren't. Many young folks do indeed feel closed out of the market, and they may be. But paradoxically, as long as interest rates remained relatively low, houses here were more affordable than at some times in the past, despite the high price tags. That's one reason so many of them changed hands.

That was an interesting story in the Post about the explosion of the D.C. exurbs in Virginia, with people moving out from close-in suburbs. What is your take on this phenomenon? Are people leaving because they can buy more affordable, larger homes out there? Is the crime scaring them away? It's a big trade-off to take on a commute like that.

It's a big, big trade-off, but more and more people are making it. And the reason is pretty clear: Housing costs. I doubt crime is having all that much to do with it. Fairfax County isn't exactly the crime capital of the East Coast.

I heard that a flat income tax for D.C. has been proposed. What will that will do to real estate and to homeowners?

I suspect this isn't something to realistically worry about. Every few years, it seems, some Congress-type proposes using D.C. for a lab test of the flat tax or something similar. And then the proposal fades away.

I am buying a home. I have excellent credit and very little money. I'm single and make about $60,000. Although I am very responsible, I am getting approved for very low amounts on a loan. Help. I need more money, I will pay it back, I promise! But the houses are so expensive. What can I do?

Sorry to hear about your problem — because, as you know, you are not alone. The alternatives are not fun. If you have very little cash, you need to save more cash. And that means looking closely at all your expenditures.

My D.C. row house is adjoined to a home that's being rented and is very poorly maintained. I am very concerned about my property values and am embarrassed to have any visitors. I am pretty sure that the home is a Section 8 rental property, and I am hoping I can complain to a local housing agency. But I'm not sure what rights I have.

You can definitely complain. In the District, housing inspections are overseen by the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (dcra.dc.gov). Now, we all know that dealing with the D.C. government isn't always a barrel of laughs, but there are some hard-working housing inspectors who can help.

How do you suggest researching schools in a neighborhood in which you might want to purchase a home?

School quality is key to the homebuying decision. And there's lots of info out there. Check out the Web sites of the school districts that interest you. Also, see the package of stories the Post ran recently about the No Child Left Behind act, which makes even more school ratings available.

When my husband and I took out an equity loan on a house, we found some people named as "trustees" listed on the deed. We thought the deed should only mention us as the owner and the bank as the lender. Who are the trustees and what is their role on our deed?

Throughout this region, what we think of as a "mortgage" is usually a "deed of trust." The trustees are always those odd names that you see. It's a legal formality that allows the bank to foreclose on you if you don't pay, basically.

I am attempting a For Sale By Owner (FSBO). According to Internet real-estate sites, there are 28 comparable properties in Bowie with a median price of $369,900. My asking price is $359,900. Do I have a reasonable chance of selling without my house being listed in the MLS or using an agent? If so, what is the best method of advertising to use now?

Well, that's 28 market competitors who may be easier to find than you are. So if you're going to compete, you have to be aggressive. Start with an ad in The Washington Post, both paper and online. List elsewhere on the Web. And don't forget a lawn sign.

My wife died last month and I need to sell our house. The house was in both our names. What do I need to do before I can sell it?

I'm sorry for your loss. For the exact steps required to tidy up the deed, contact the recorder of deeds office in the county or city where the house is located. You'll need to file a few forms. It's not complex or expensive, usually.

I graduated from college, paid off my loans and am ready to buy a home. I often see foreclosed homes in the Post and wonder how much money I would need to buy one of them. I will be borrowing against my government TSP (like a 401k). Also, should I get a Realtor or can I go to court alone without feeling too intimidated?

Foreclosure houses are a traditionally risky form of real-estate investment — they sound like the

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bargain basement, but they have problems for the inexperienced. If you're really truly serious, you may want to talk to a real-estate agent who has experience in the field. Also, take a look at the HUD (the Department of Housing and Urban Development Web site, hud.gov) to find out more about investing in government foreclosures.

I rented a condo in January and the fire alarm for the building has beeped since then, despite my complaints to the D.C. City Council and the fire marshal. Is there anything more I can do? The alarm is so old the plastic cover fell off.

I'm assuming that you have complained in writing to your landlord, to building management and to the condo's board of directors. Your landlord has a responsibility to provide you with living quarters that don't beep; you may want to explain that cordially to him or her. I'm guessing this is more complicated than it appears on the surface, because normally condo owners would rise up in protest at something like this within, oh, say, an hour. Why aren't your neighbors — who, after all, own the building — complaining, too? Or are they all renters? If the latter, perhaps you'd get more oomph by complaining together to your councilmember and the fire marshall.

I bought a brand-new condo in Southwest last year, anticipating a break with the first-time home buyer credit of $5K that the D.C. government has been advertising for several years (and that many of my friends and colleagues who have bought property have received). While doing my taxes, I found out that D.C. is phasing out the tax credit, so based on my adjusted income tax (single filer, well above $70K), I will see virtually no tax credit. I find this to be false advertising by the D.C. government AND my real estate agent. Do I have any recourse?

Since the first day of the tax credit, it has phased out depending on income. It disappears completely at about $90K per year. That's pretty clearly set out in every pamphlet, article or tax thing I've ever seen. I think you could logically be expected to have done your due diligence.

What makes a room a bedroom? I'm trying to figure out whether I can create a bedroom with some of the extra space I have, so that when I'm ready to sell I'll have a four-bedroom house to list rather than a three-bedroom house.

Check with your county building department — but the usual answer is a window, a closet and a door that leads to the hall, rather than simply to another bedroom.

My husband and I live in the city as renters, but really need to start to look at buying a home. We have a moderate income, so our options are few anywhere inside D.C. or Virginia (Maryland is too far away from work). Could you recommend some books to guide us through the buying process or other resources?

There are lots and lots of books out there. Get yourself to the library or bookstore. Avoid anything that implies you will get rich quick. I continue to like "Homebuying for Dummies," but there are other good ones, too.

My partner and I are looking at buying a unit in a condo duplex. The condo has been self-managed by the two owners and they haven't paid condo fees in a while. The owners of the unit we're interested in (the larger one) has been paying the insurance and water bills for the building out of their own pockets. And the building is under-insured — in other words, they're paying hazard insurance for about half the entire building's value. Does this sound too messy? We're thinking of consulting with an attorney before making a decision on whether to make an offer, but we're not certain it's worth even that effort.

That sounds like a real mess. You would need to have a lengthy and honest discussion with the OTHER condo owner — who will, in effect, become your co-owner. And you need to read the condo documents very closely — if you are seriously considering this, I would DEFINITELY have a lawyer read over them.

I am seeing lots of homes on the market that have been available for a long, long time. Is there an appropriate time to wait for a house to be on the market before one can offer less than asking?

Continued on page E40

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CONDO

Continued from E39

If so, when? And when offering a lower amount, what is a reasonable percentage? Is this all subjective?

Oh, the new things we all have to learn! Can we all spell "negotiate"? Yes, there are more homes on the market. Yes, they are staying there longer. That means you can indeed make an offer that is below the contract price. The seller can accept it, reject it or make a counteroffer (i.e., start negotiations). There's no prescribed level under the asking price that you should bid, or any prescribed time. You will want to look at what competitive properties are actually selling for (ask your agent), as well as what they are asking. Then offer something reasonable. If your offer is insultingly low, the buyer may indeed reject it outright. Hint: Offering 50 percent of the asking price is usually considered insulting. You are bargaining for a house, not for a souvenir in a street market.

My husband and I are moving to D.C., and we may stay only five years. Should we buy or rent? We are thinking of a two-bedroom somewhere in Dupont Circle. If we buy, we think it would cost around $800,000. What do you think?

Five years is usually the conservative estimate in favor of buying. It's enough time to ride out little waves. Look around, see what you can rent for your money vs. buy.

I will be moving into my fiancee's house in the next couple of months. I am trying to decide if I should rent or sell my condo. I bought it 14 months ago, so I have not yet lived there the two years I need to exempt capital gains taxes. I paid $285,000 for it and would hope to sell for $350,000 or rent at $1,650 per month. If I do sell and invest my earnings in my fiancee's house, would I avoid paying taxes? What is the best option?

Taking your profit and investing it in another residence where you will live — whether it be your fiancee's or any other house — will NOT affect your tax situation. You have an investment property, not a residence; you need to think about it that way. If you want to defer taxes, then you need to do a Starker exchange, rather than a straight sale.

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